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Manga by Kagami Yoshimizu

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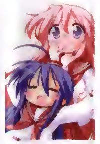
Lucky☆Star



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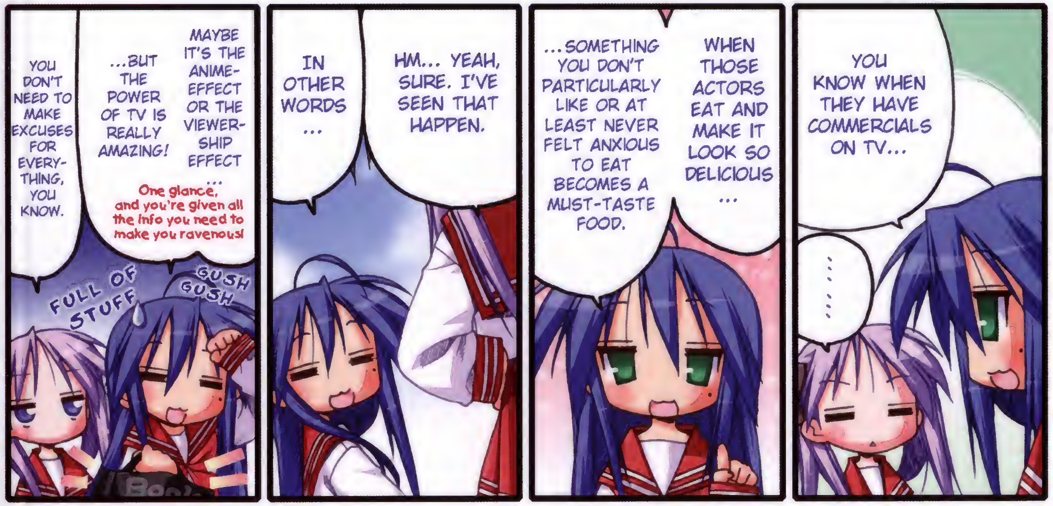
Lucky☆Star

Effects of Lucky Star
Those unfocussed stories that bring an unbidden grin to your face, or at least brings a warm, gentle feeling to your soul.

Anyway, this is recommended when you want to feel refreshed.

Especially recommended for:
People who want a retreat
People who are awaiting this release
People who want a bit of soul healing


YOU KNOW WHEN THEY HAVE COMMERCIALS ON TV...
......
WHEN THOSE ACTORS EAT AND MAKE IT LOOK SO DELICIOUS...
...SOMETHING YOU DON'T PARTICULARLY LIKE OR AT LEAST NEVER FELT ANXIOUS TO EAT BECOMES A MUST-TASTE FOOD.
HM... YEAH, SURE. I'VE SEEN THAT HAPPEN.
IN OTHER WORDS...
MAYBE IT'S THE ANIME-EFFECT OR THE VIEWER-SHIP EFFECT...
...BUT THE POWER OF TV IS REALLY AMAZING!
One glance, and you're given all the info you need to make you ravenous!
GUSH GUSH
FULL OF STUFF
YOU DON'T NEED TO MAKE EXCUSES FOR EVERYTHING, YOU KNOW.

PICK THIS UP EVEN IF YOU FEEL A LITTLE INTERESTED!

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SUGGESTED
13 UP

Lucky☆Star

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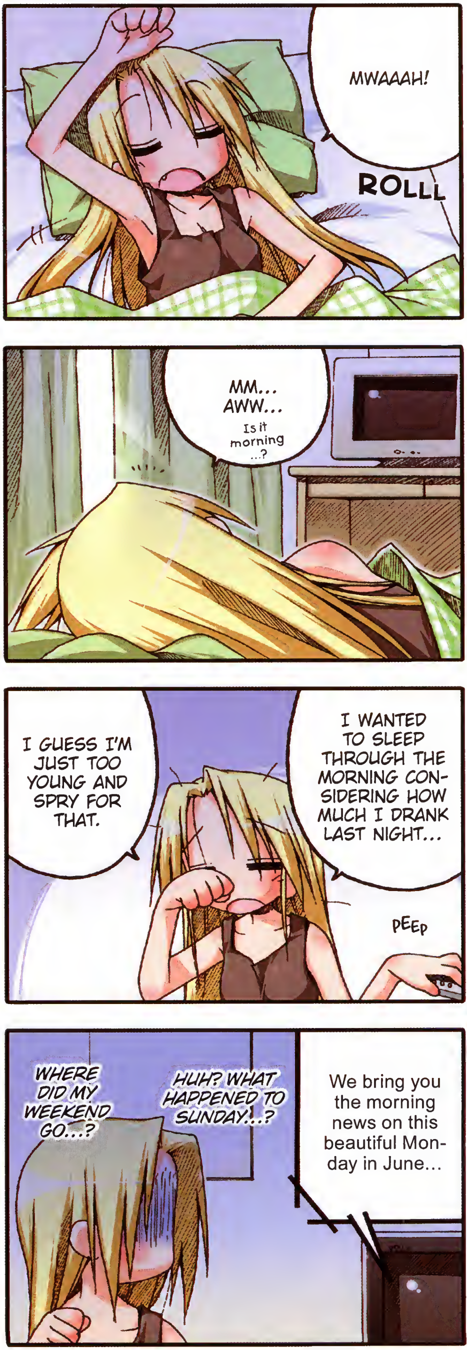
episode 57

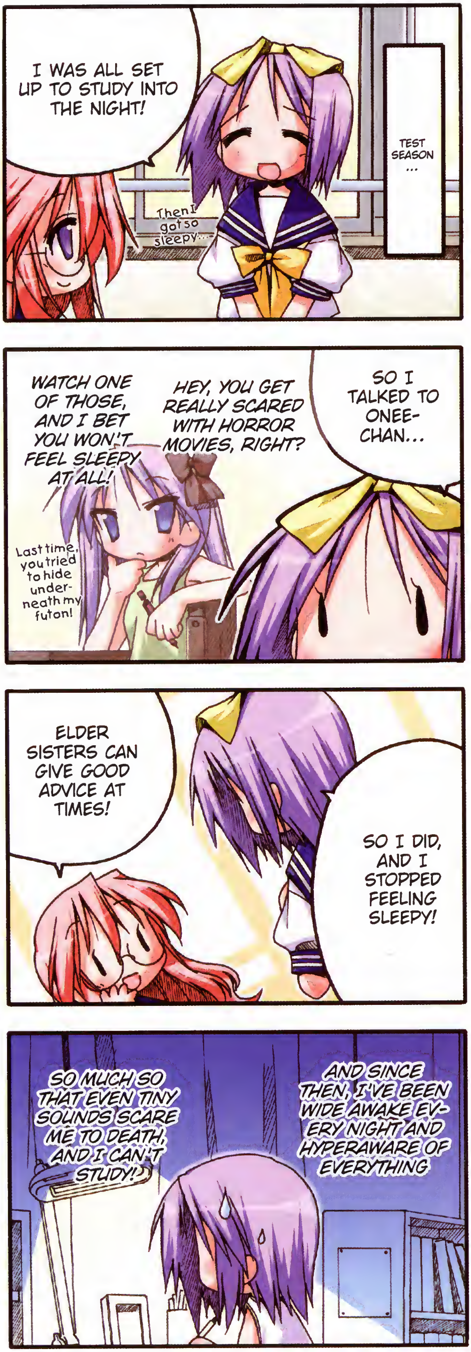
this way, that way

gone and done it

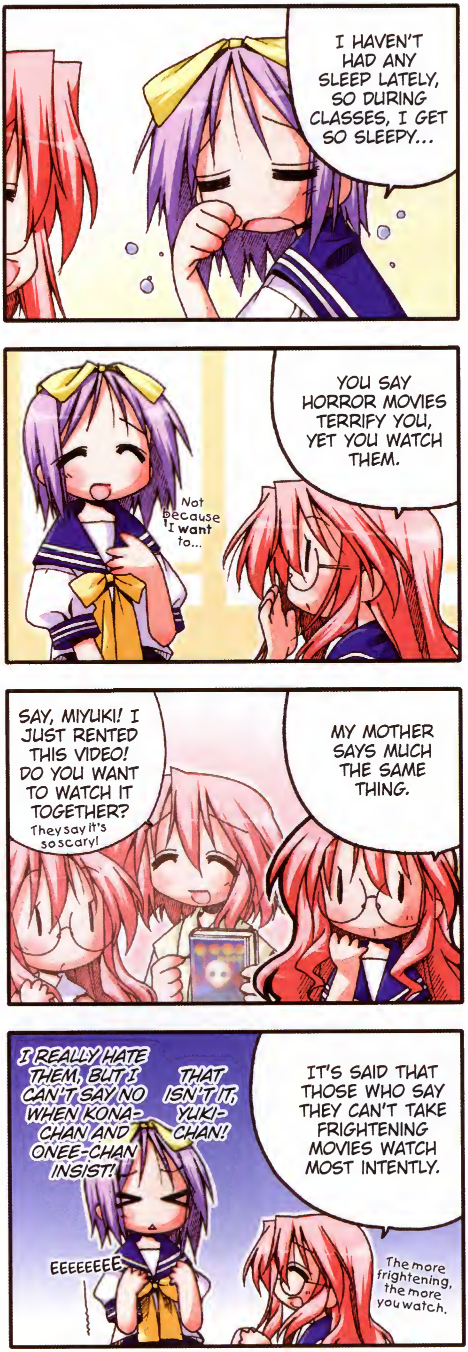

MWAAAH!
ROLLL
MM... AWW...
Is it morning ...?
I WANTED TO SLEEP THROUGH THE MORNING CONSIDERING HOW MUCH I DRANK LAST NIGHT...
I GUESS I'M JUST TOO YOUNG AND SPRY FOR THAT.
PEEP
We bring you the morning news on this beautiful Monday in June...
HUH? WHAT HAPPENED TO SUNDAY!..?
WHERE DID MY WEEKEND GO...?

● Comptiq, September 2005 issue

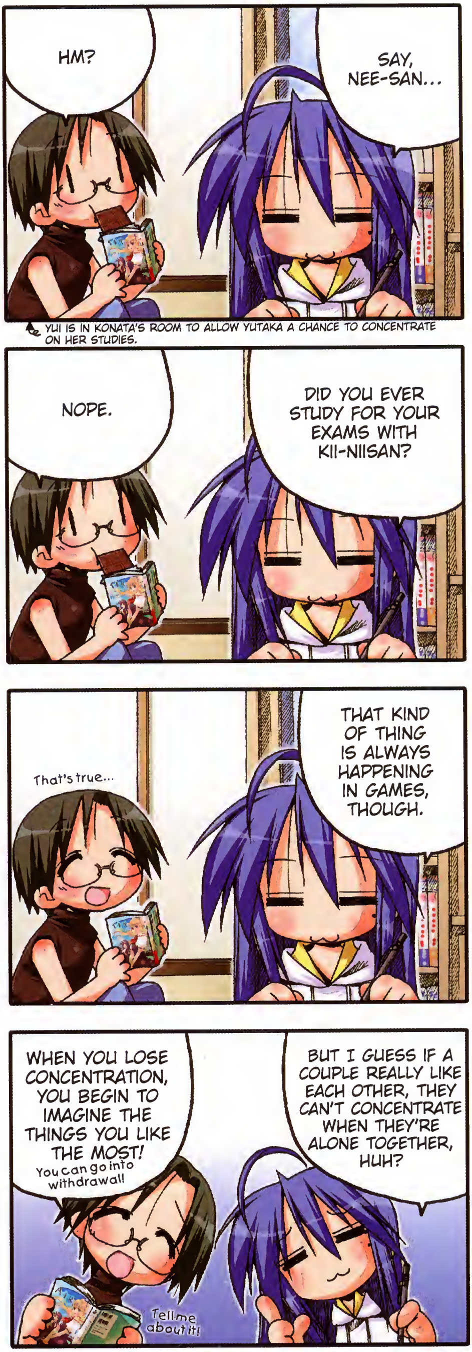
tonight in sister's room again


TEST SEASON ...
I WAS ALL SET UP TO STUDY INTO THE NIGHT!
Then I got so sleepy...
SO I TALKED TO ONEE-CHAN...
HEY, YOU GET REALLY SCARED WITH HORROR MOVIES, RIGHT?
WATCH ONE OF THOSE, AND I BET YOU WON'T FEEL SLEEPY AT ALL!
Last time, you tried to hide underneath my futon!
SO I DID, AND I STOPPED FEELING SLEEPY!
ELDER SISTERS CAN GIVE GOOD ADVICE AT TIMES!
AND SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN WIDE AWAKE EVERY NIGHT AND HYPERAWARE OF EVERYTHING
SO MUCH SO THAT EVEN TINY SOUNDS SCARE ME TO DEATH, AND I CAN'T STUDY!

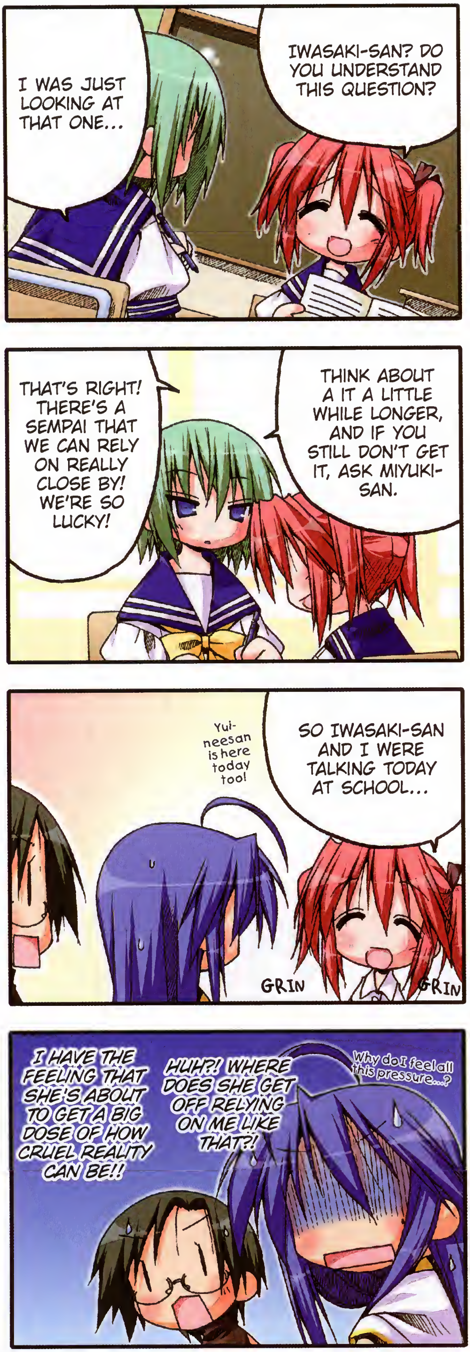
watching through your fingers


I HAVEN'T HAD ANY SLEEP LATELY, SO DURING CLASSES, I GET SO SLEEPY...
YOU SAY HORROR MOVIES TERRIFY YOU, YET YOU WATCH THEM.
Not because I want to...
MY MOTHER SAYS MUCH THE SAME THING.
SAY, MIYUKI! I JUST RENTED THIS VIDEO! DO YOU WANT TO WATCH IT TOGETHER? They say it's so scary!
IT'S SAID THAT THOSE WHO SAY THEY CAN'T TAKE FRIGHTENING MOVIES WATCH MOST INTENTLY.
The more frightening, the more you watch.
THAT ISN'T IT, YUKI-CHAN!
I REALLY HATE THEM, BUT I CAN'T SAY NO WHEN KONA-CHAN AND ONEE-CHAN INSIST!
EEEEEEEE

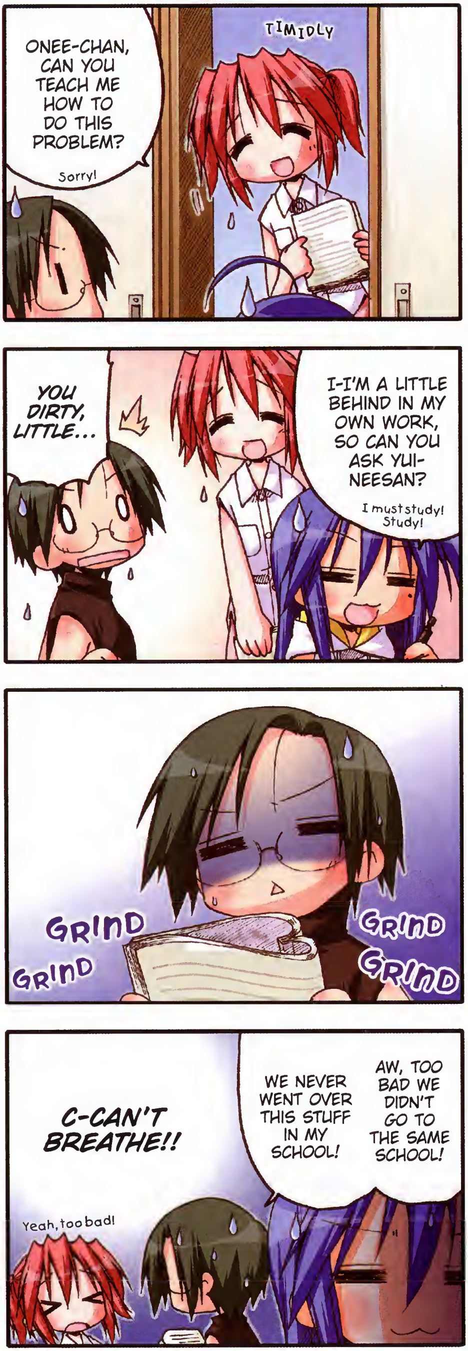
restless


SAY, NEE-SAN...
HM?
YUI IS IN KONATA'S ROOM TO ALLOW YUTAKA A CHANCE TO CONCENTRATE ON HER STUDIES.
DID YOU EVER STUDY FOR YOUR EXAMS WITH KII-NIISAN?
NOPE.
THAT KIND OF THING IS ALWAYS HAPPENING IN GAMES, THOUGH.
That's true...
BUT I GUESS IF A COUPLE REALLY LIKE EACH OTHER, THEY CAN'T CONCENTRATE WHEN THEY'RE ALONE TOGETHER, HUH?
Tell me about it!
WHEN YOU LOSE CONCENTRATION, YOU BEGIN TO IMAGINE THE THINGS YOU LIKE THE MOST!
You can go into withdrawal!

battle strength comparison

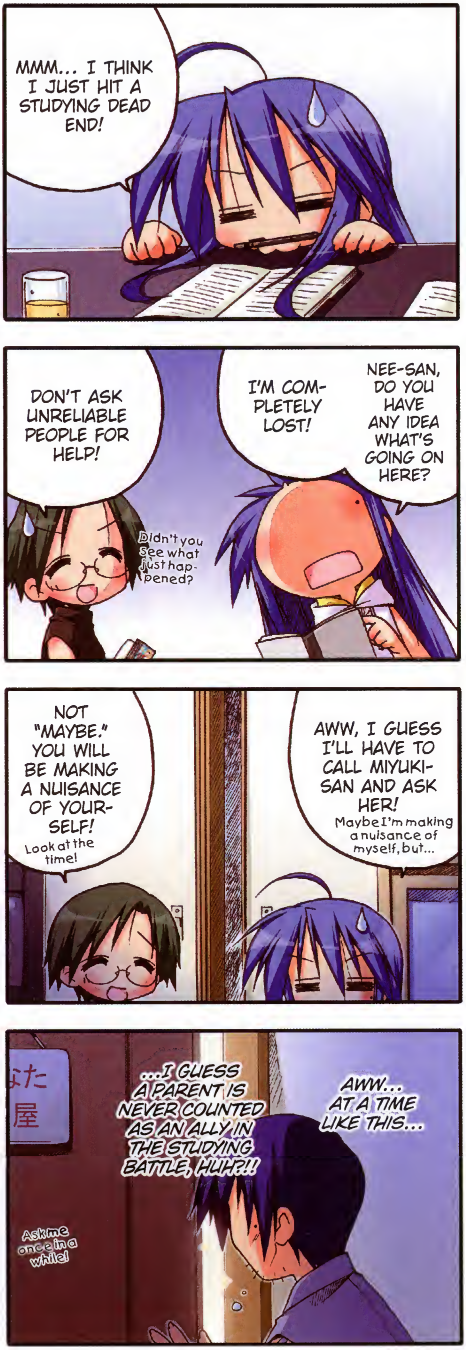

IWASAKI-SAN? DO YOU UNDERSTAND THIS QUESTION?
I WAS JUST LOOKING AT THAT ONE...
THINK ABOUT A IT A LITTLE WHILE LONGER, AND IF YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, ASK MIYUKI-SAN.
THAT'S RIGHT! THERE'S A SEMPAI THAT WE CAN RELY ON REALLY CLOSE BY! WE'RE SO LUCKY!
SO IWASAKI-SAN AND I WERE TALKING TODAY AT SCHOOL...
Yui-neesan is here today too!
GRIN
GRIN
Why do I feel all this pressure...?
HUH?! WHERE DOES SHE GET OFF RELYING ON ME LIKE THAT?!
I HAVE THE FEELING THAT SHE'S ABOUT TO GET A BIG DOSE OF HOW CRUEL REALITY CAN BE!!

various forms of study


TIMIDLY
ONEE-CHAN, CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO DO THIS PROBLEM?
Sorry!
I-I'M A LITTLE BEHIND IN MY OWN WORK, SO CAN YOU ASK YUI-NEESAN?
I must study! Study!
YOU DIRTY, LITTLE...
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
AW, TOO BAD WE DIDN'T GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL!
WE NEVER WENT OVER THIS STUFF IN MY SCHOOL!
C-CAN'T BREATHE!!
Yeah, too bad!

YUTAKA IS GIVEN A VALUABLE LIFE EXPERIENCE.

really amazing

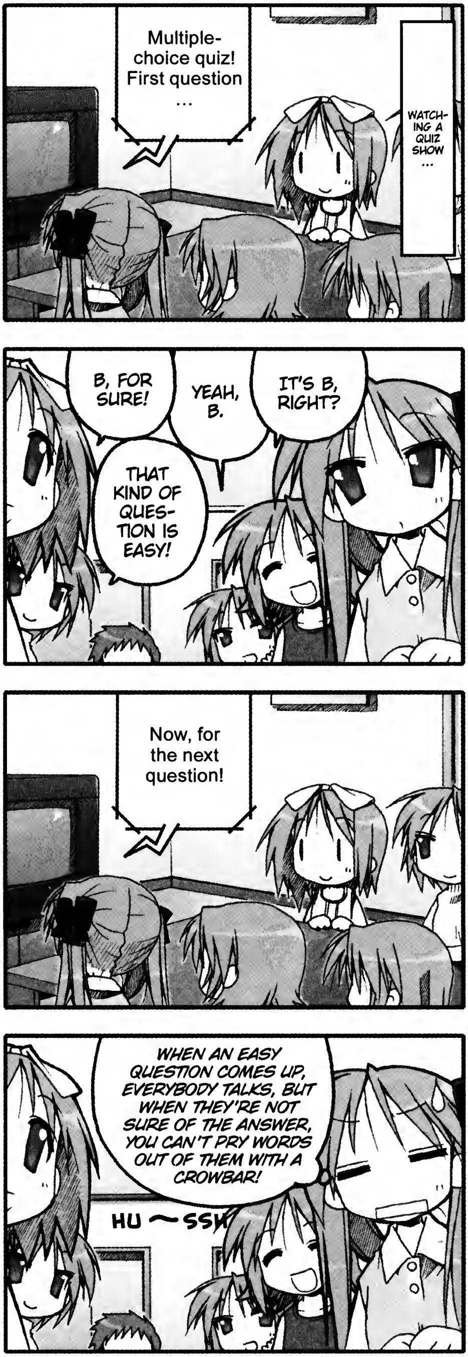

MMM... I THINK I JUST HIT A STUDYING DEAD END!
NEE-SAN, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I'M COMPLETELY LOST!
DON'T ASK UNRELIABLE PEOPLE FOR HELP!
Didn't you see what just happened?
AWW, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO CALL MIYUKI-SAN AND ASK HER!
Maybe I'm making a nuisance of myself, but...
NOT "MAYBE." YOU WILL BE MAKING A NUISANCE OF YOURSELF!
Look at the time!
AWW... AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
...I GUESS A PARENT IS NEVER COUNTED AS AN ALLY IN THE STUDYING BATTLE, HUH?!!
Ask me once in a while!
なた
屋

Lucky☆Star

episode 58

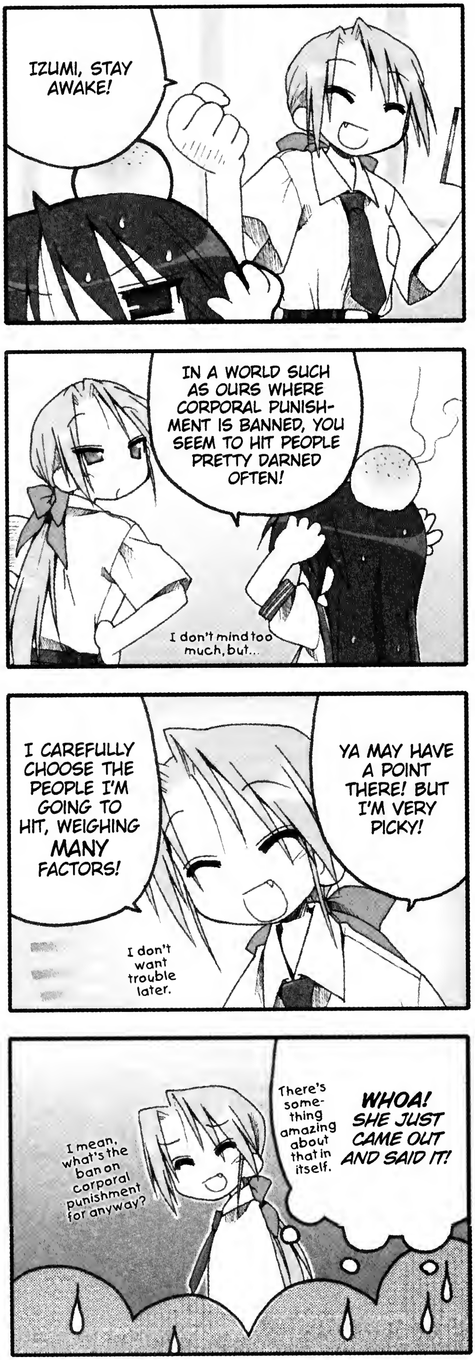
life isn't that forgiving

conservation of speech

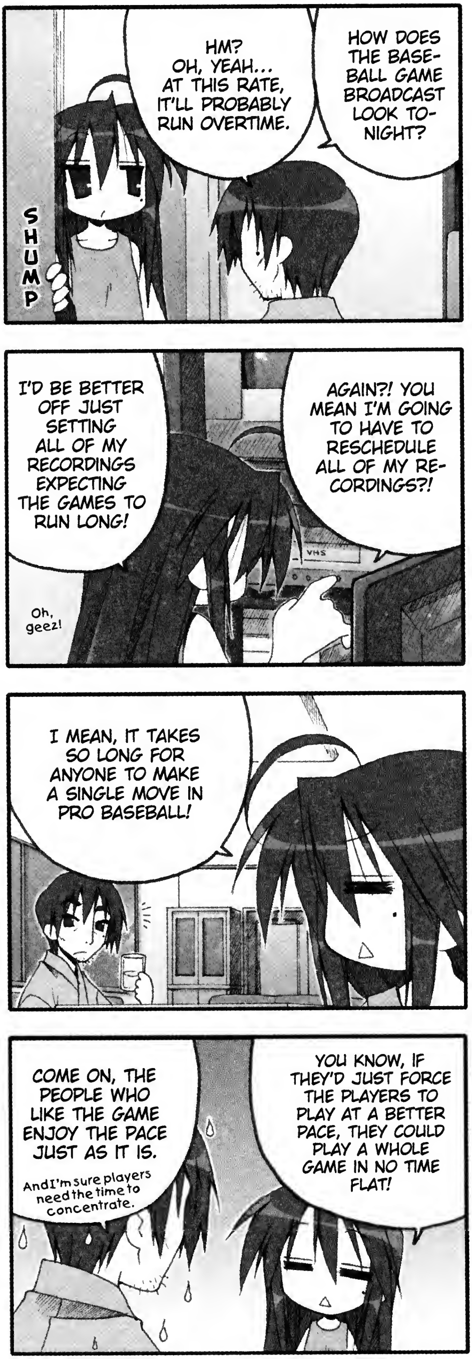

WATCHING A QUIZ SHOW …
Multiple-choice quiz! First question …
IT'S B, RIGHT?
YEAH, B.
B, FOR SURE!
THAT KIND OF QUESTION IS EASY!
Now, for the next question!
HU～SSH
WHEN AN EASY QUESTION COMES UP, EVERYBODY TALKS, BUT WHEN THEY'RE NOT SURE OF THE ANSWER, YOU CAN'T PRY WORDS OUT OF THEM WITH A CROWBAR!

● Shonen Ace, September 2005 issue

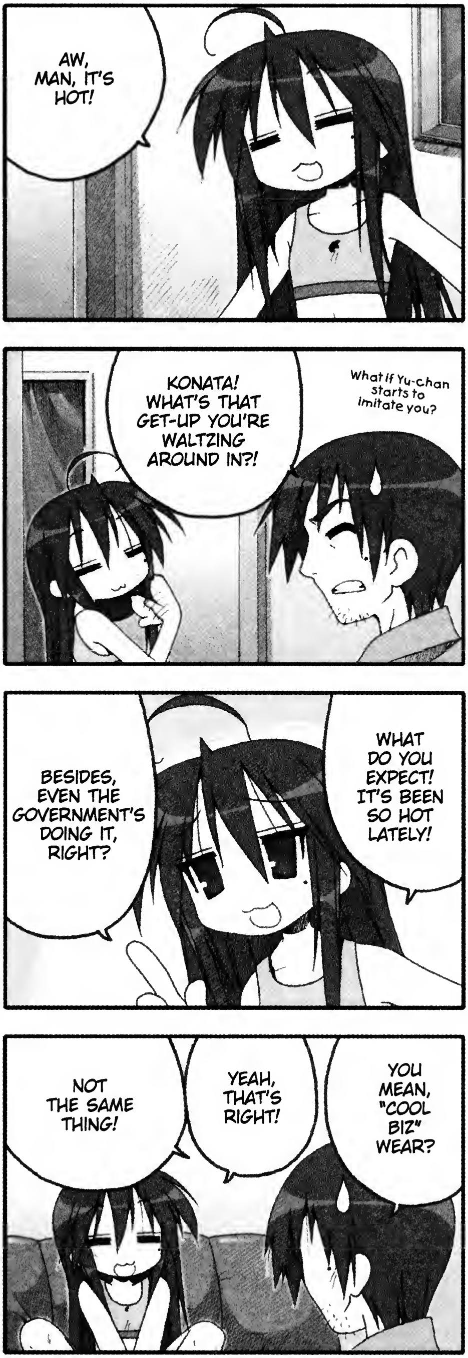
pass the test


IZUMI, STAY AWAKE!
IN A WORLD SUCH AS OURS WHERE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IS BANNED, YOU SEEM TO HIT PEOPLE PRETTY DARNED OFTEN!
I don't mind too much, but...
YA MAY HAVE A POINT THERE! BUT I'M VERY PICKY!
I CAREFULLY CHOOSE THE PEOPLE I'M GOING TO HIT, WEIGHING MANY FACTORS!
I don't want trouble later.
WHOA! SHE JUST CAME OUT AND SAID IT!
There's something amazing about that in itself.
I mean, what's the ban on corporal punishment for anyway?

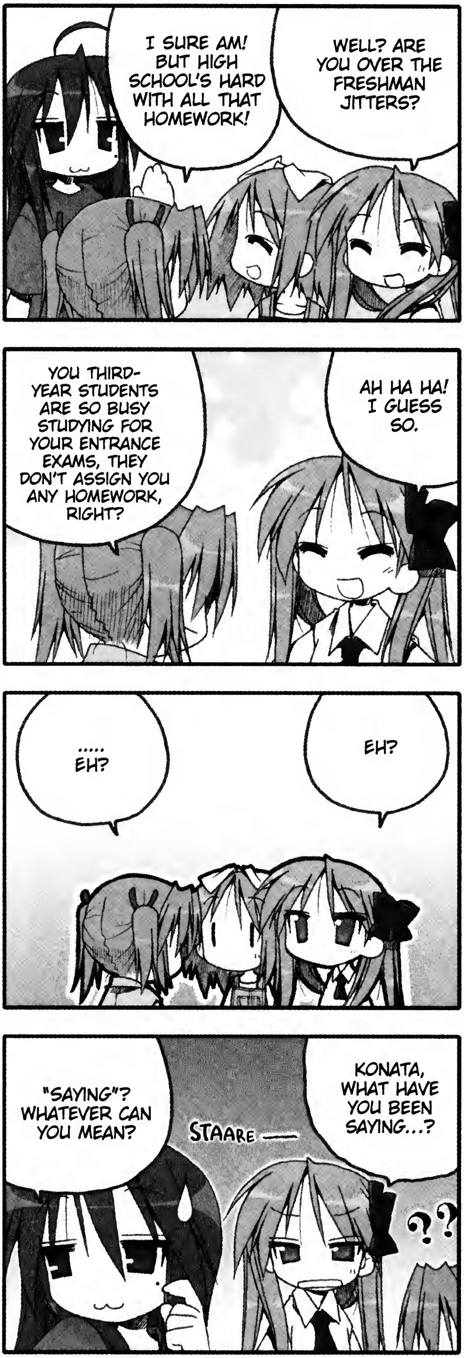
the major leagues have good tempo


HOW DOES THE BASEBALL GAME BROADCAST LOOK TONIGHT?
HM? OH, YEAH... AT THIS RATE, IT'LL PROBABLY RUN OVERTIME.
SHUMP
AGAIN?! YOU MEAN I'M GOING TO HAVE TO RESCHEDULE ALL OF MY RECORDINGS?!
I'D BE BETTER OFF JUST SETTING ALL OF MY RECORDINGS EXPECTING THE GAMES TO RUN LONG!
VHS
Oh, geez!
I MEAN, IT TAKES SO LONG FOR ANYONE TO MAKE A SINGLE MOVE IN PRO BASEBALL!
YOU KNOW, IF THEY'D JUST FORCE THE PLAYERS TO PLAY AT A BETTER PACE, THEY COULD PLAY A WHOLE GAME IN NO TIME FLAT!
COME ON, THE PEOPLE WHO LIKE THE GAME ENJOY THE PACE JUST AS IT IS.
And I'm sure players need the time to concentrate.

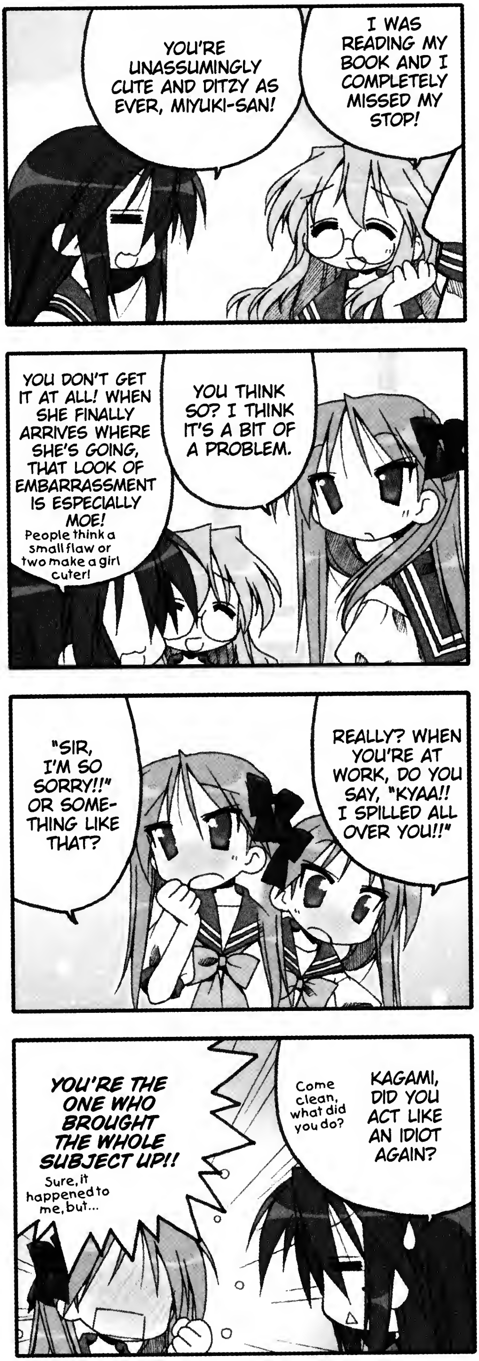
not swimwear


AW, MAN, IT'S HOT!
What if Yu-chan starts to imitate you?
KONATA! WHAT'S THAT GET-UP YOU'RE WALTZING AROUND IN?!
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT! IT'S BEEN SO HOT LATELY!
BESIDES, EVEN THE GOVERNMENT'S DOING IT, RIGHT?
YOU MEAN, "COOL BIZ" WEAR?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
NOT THE SAME THING!

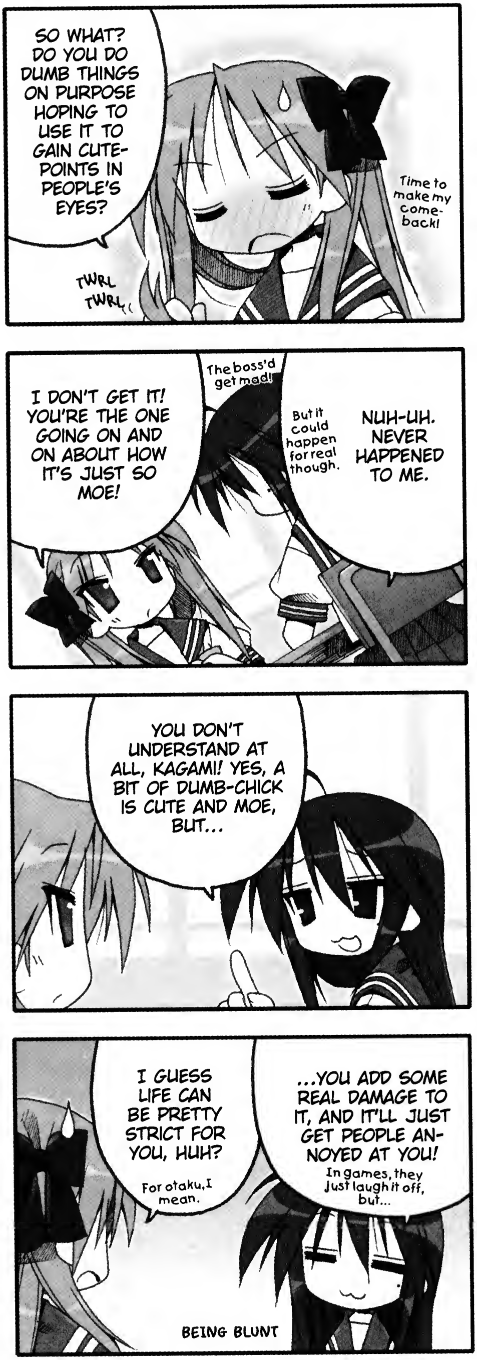
human beings don't change that easily

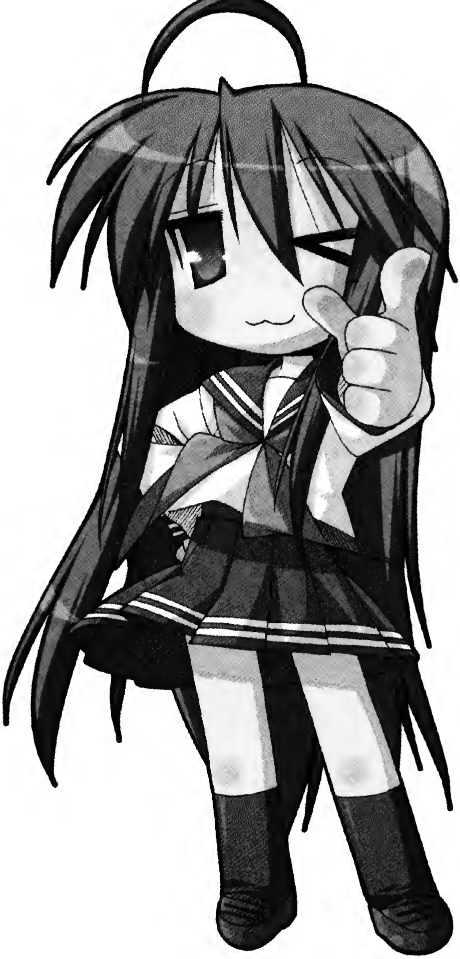

WELL? ARE YOU OVER THE FRESHMAN JITTERS?
I SURE AM! BUT HIGH SCHOOL'S HARD WITH ALL THAT HOMEWORK!
YOU THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS ARE SO BUSY STUDYING FOR YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS, THEY DON'T ASSIGN YOU ANY HOMEWORK, RIGHT?
AH HA HA! I GUESS SO.
EH?
..... EH?
KONATA, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN SAYING...?
??
STAARE —
"SAYING"? WHATEVER CAN YOU MEAN?

cut


I WAS READING MY BOOK AND I COMPLETELY MISSED MY STOP!
YOU'RE UNASSUMINGLY CUTE AND DITZY AS EVER, MIYUKI-SAN!
YOU THINK SO? I THINK IT'S A BIT OF A PROBLEM.
YOU DON'T GET IT AT ALL! WHEN SHE FINALLY ARRIVES WHERE SHE'S GOING, THAT LOOK OF EMBARRASSMENT IS ESPECIALLY MOE!
People think a small flaw or two make a girl cuter!
REALLY? WHEN YOU'RE AT WORK, DO YOU SAY, "KYAA!! I SPILLED ALL OVER YOU!!"
"SIR, I'M SO SORRY!!" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
KAGAMI, DID YOU ACT LIKE AN IDIOT AGAIN?
Come clean, what did you do?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THE WHOLE SUBJECT UP!!
Sure, it happened to me, but...

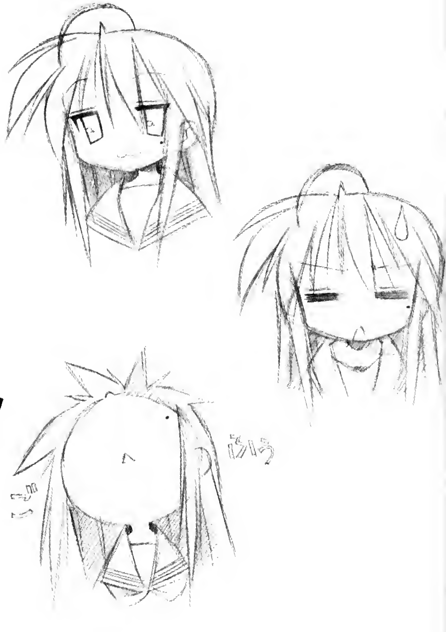
the essence of second best


Time to make my comeback!
SO WHAT? DO YOU DO DUMB THINGS ON PURPOSE HOPING TO USE IT TO GAIN CUTE-POINTS IN PEOPLE'S EYES?
TWRL TWRL
NUH-UH. NEVER HAPPENED TO ME.
But it could happen for real though.
The boss'd get mad!
I DON'T GET IT! YOU'RE THE ONE GOING ON AND ON ABOUT HOW IT'S JUST SO MOE!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL, KAGAMI! YES, A BIT OF DUMB-CHICK IS CUTE AND MOE, BUT...
...YOU ADD SOME REAL DAMAGE TO IT, AND IT'LL JUST GET PEOPLE ANNOYED AT YOU!
In games, they just laugh it off, but...
I GUESS LIFE CAN BE PRETTY STRICT FOR YOU, HUH?
For otaku, I mean.
BEING BLUNT



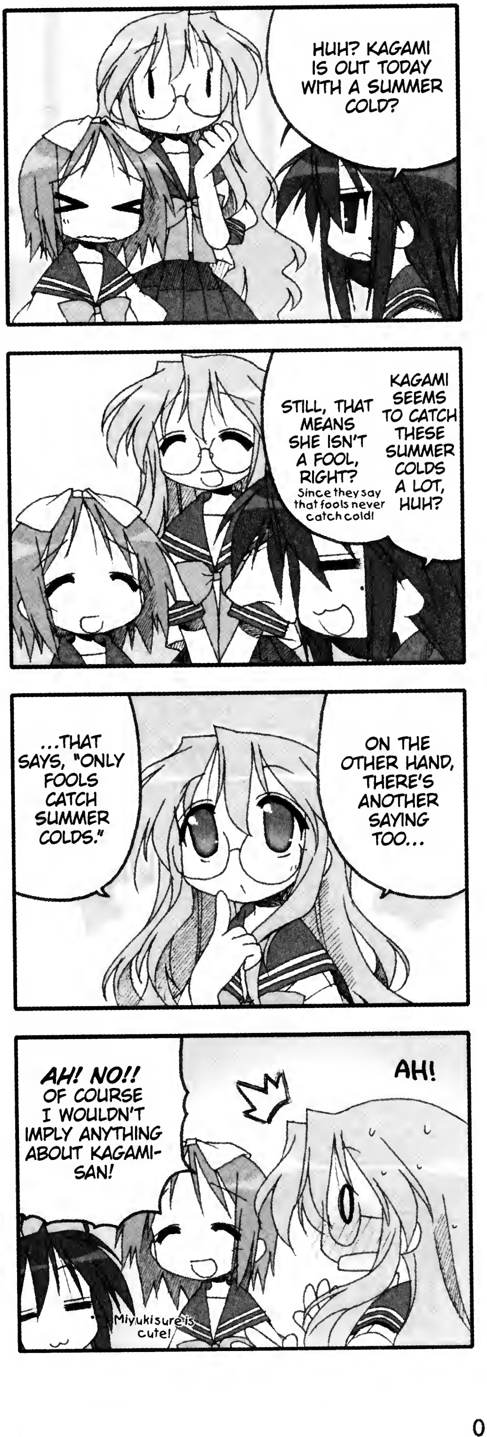
KONATA IZUMI

strong point:sports (but doesn't enjoy them)
weak point: anything scientific
An all-purpose otaku girl.
Marches to her own drummer, and always finds herself in the thick of any excitement.
Her athletic abilities don't help her. Not today or any day.



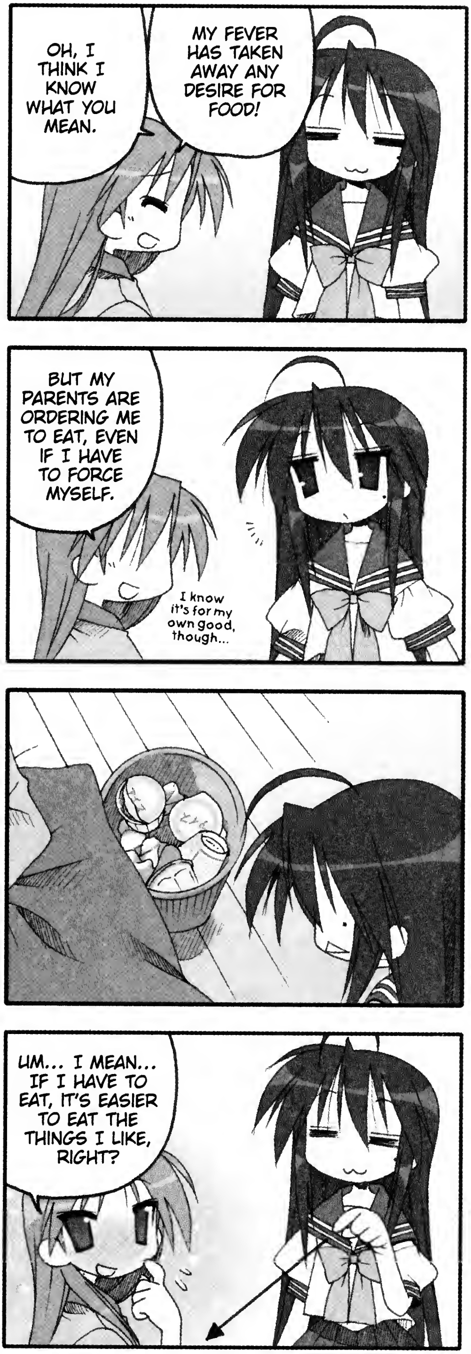
episode 59

if you haven't got your health...

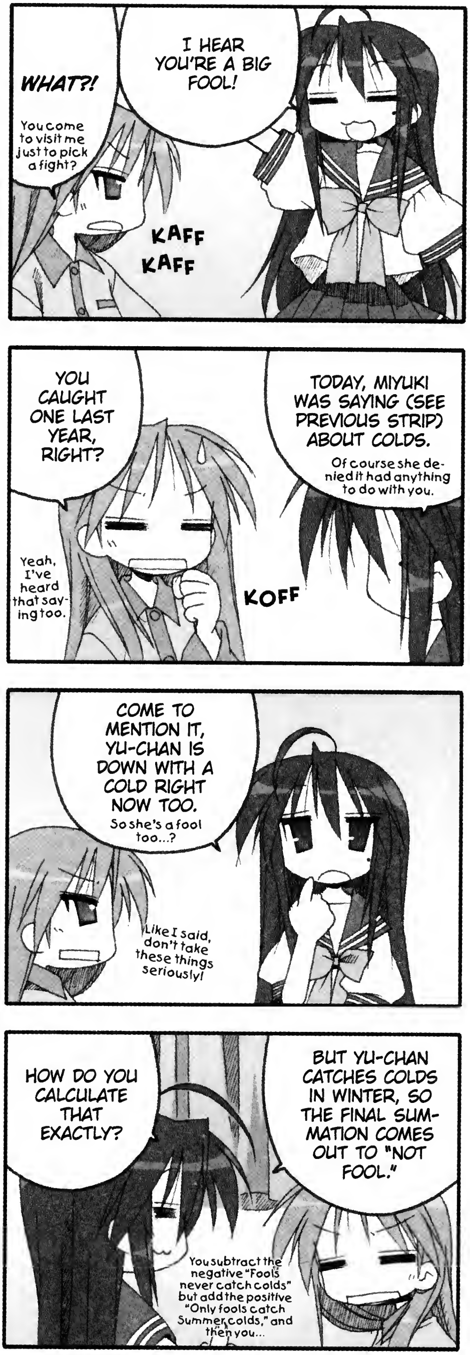

HUH? KAGAMI IS OUT TODAY WITH A SUMMER COLD?
KAGAMI SEEMS TO CATCH THESE SUMMER COLDS A LOT, HUH?
STILL, THAT MEANS SHE ISN'T A FOOL, RIGHT? Since they say that fools never catch cold!
ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE'S ANOTHER SAYING TOO...
...THAT SAYS, "ONLY FOOLS CATCH SUMMER COLDS."
AH!
AH! NO!! OF COURSE I WOULDN'T IMPLY ANYTHING ABOUT KAGAMI-SAN!
Miyukisure is cute!

● Comptiq, October 2005 issue

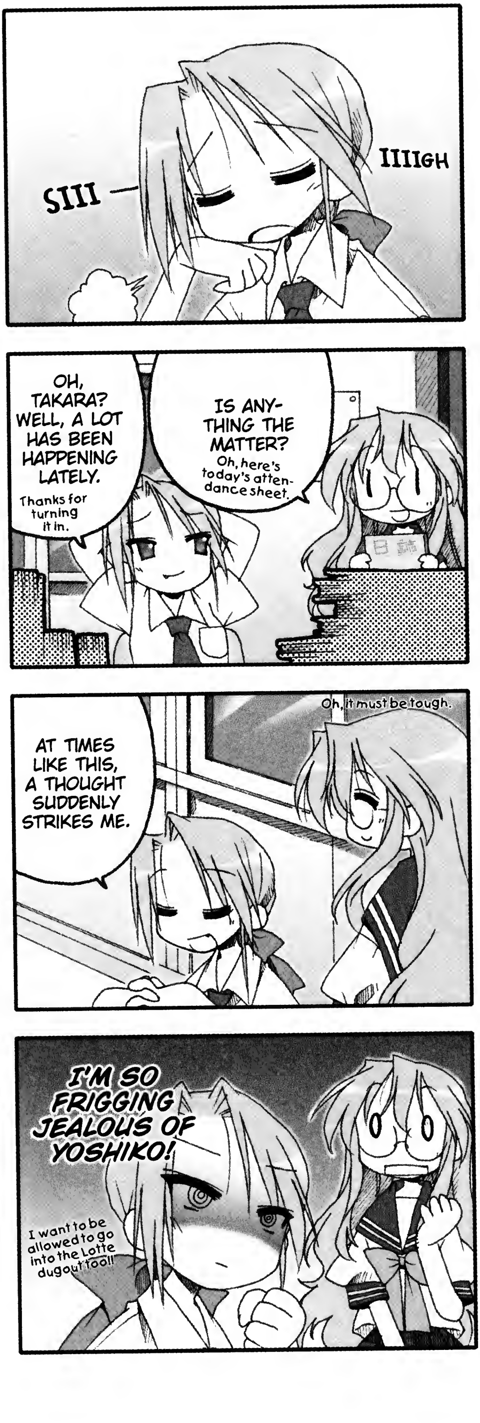
pudding ice-cream yogurt


MY FEVER HAS TAKEN AWAY ANY DESIRE FOR FOOD!
OH, I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
BUT MY PARENTS ARE ORDERING ME TO EAT, EVEN IF I HAVE TO FORCE MYSELF.
I know it's for my own good, though...
UM... I MEAN... IF I HAVE TO EAT, IT'S EASIER TO EAT THE THINGS I LIKE, RIGHT?

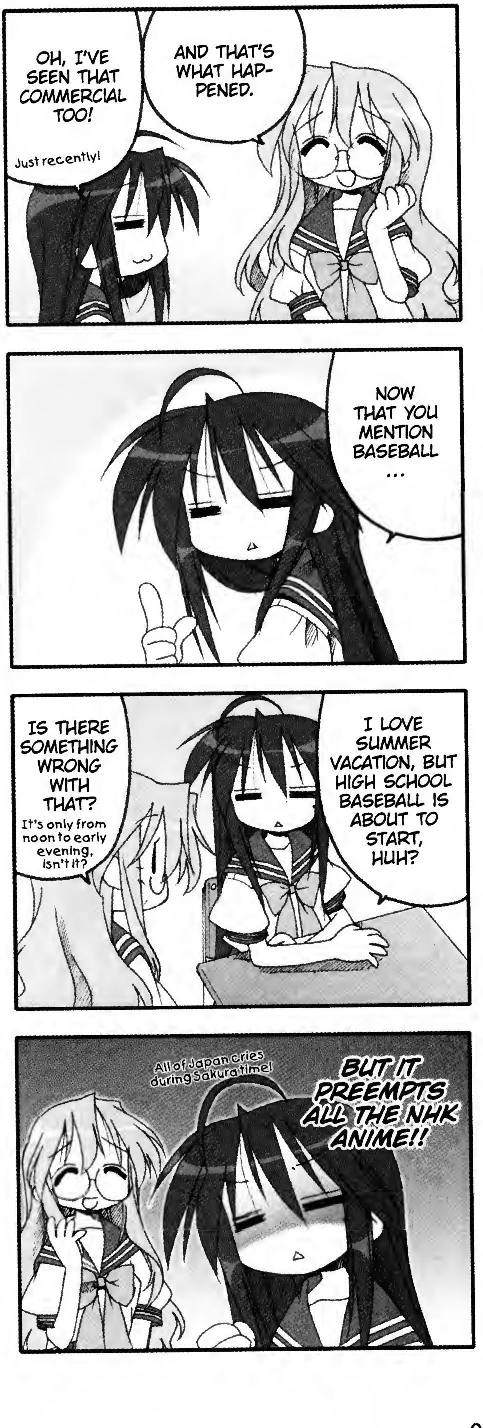
only human

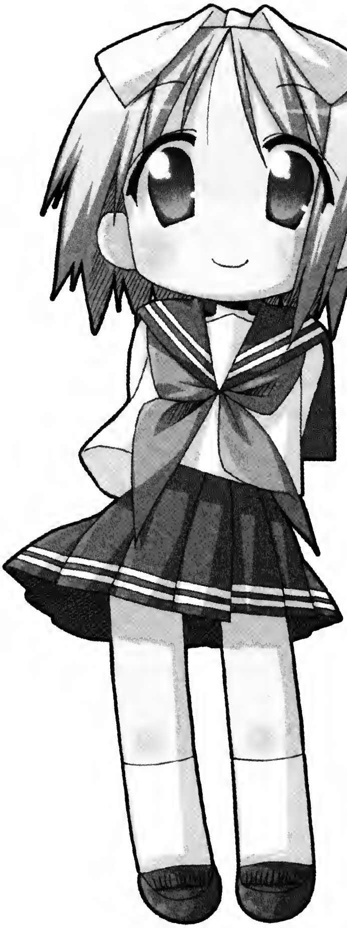

I HEAR YOU'RE A BIG FOOL!
WHAT?!
You come to visit me just to pick a fight?
KAFF KAFF
TODAY, MIYUKI WAS SAYING (SEE PREVIOUS STRIP) ABOUT COLDS.
Of course she denied it had anything to do with you.
KOFF
YOU CAUGHT ONE LAST YEAR, RIGHT?
Yeah, I've heard that saying too.
COME TO MENTION IT, YU-CHAN IS DOWN WITH A COLD RIGHT NOW TOO.
So she's a fool too...?
Like I said, don't take these things seriously!
BUT YU-CHAN CATCHES COLDS IN WINTER, SO THE FINAL SUMMATION COMES OUT TO "NOT FOOL."
You subtract the negative "Fools never catch colds" but add the positive "Only fools catch Summer colds," and then you...
HOW DO YOU CALCULATE THAT EXACTLY?

yoshiko


SIII —
IIIIGH
IS ANY-THING THE MATTER? Oh, here's today's attendance sheet.
日誌
OH, TAKARA? WELL, A LOT HAS BEEN HAPPENING LATELY. Thanks for turning it in.
Oh, it must be tough.
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, A THOUGHT SUDDENLY STRIKES ME.
I'M SO FRIGGING JEALOUS OF YOSHIKO!
I want to be allowed to go into the Lotte dugout too!!

friends forever

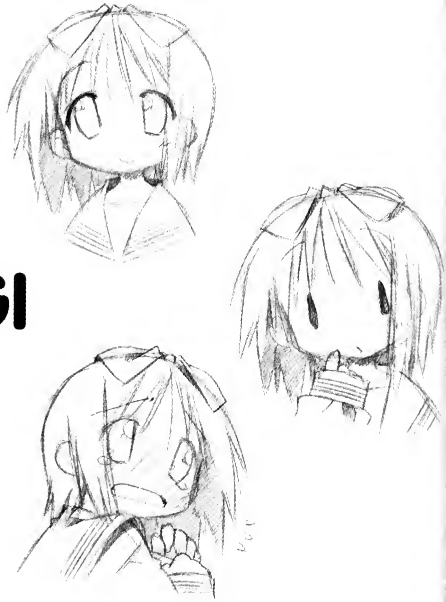

AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
OH, I'VE SEEN THAT COMMERCIAL TOO! Just recently!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION BASEBALL ...
I LOVE SUMMER VACATION, BUT HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL IS ABOUT TO START, HUH?
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT? It's only from noon to early evening, isn't it?
BUT IT PREEMPTS ALL THE NHK ANIME!!
All of Japan cries during Sakura time!



TSUKASA HIIRAGI

strong point: home economics
weak point: athletics
Nice, easygoing, and likes to help others.

Because she normally fails at most of the things she tries and has a somewhat scatterbrained personality, she is looked on as more of a failure than she actually is. She strives to become more of a "success" like her older sister is.



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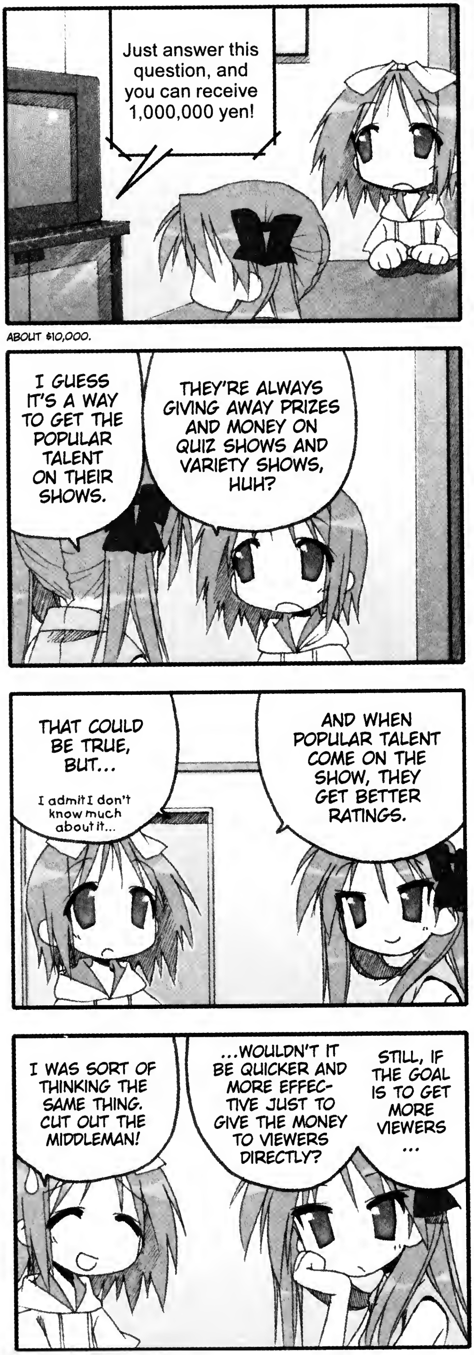
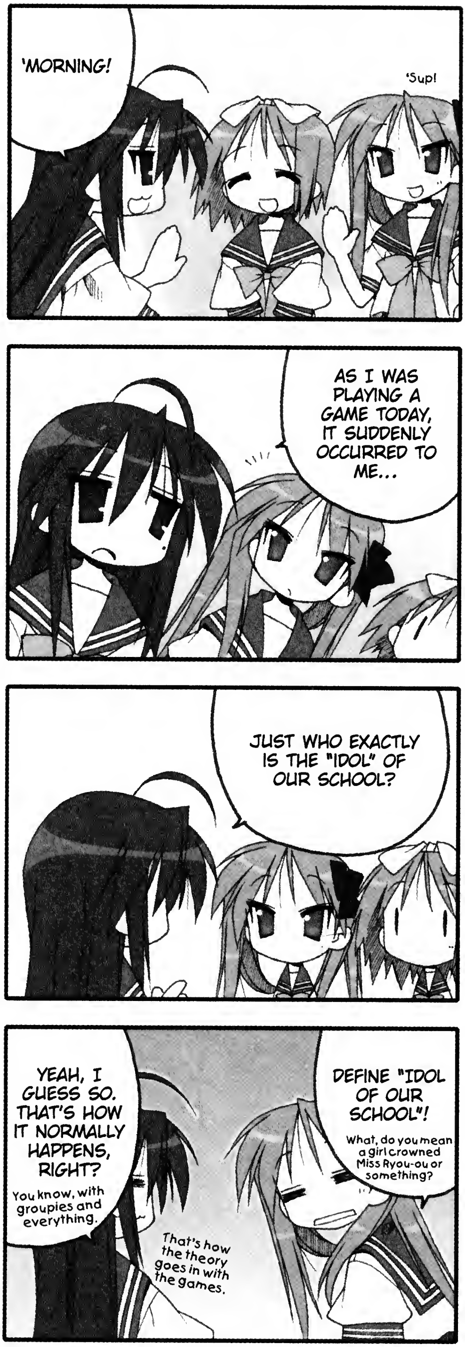
episode 60
various things about summer

a suggestion

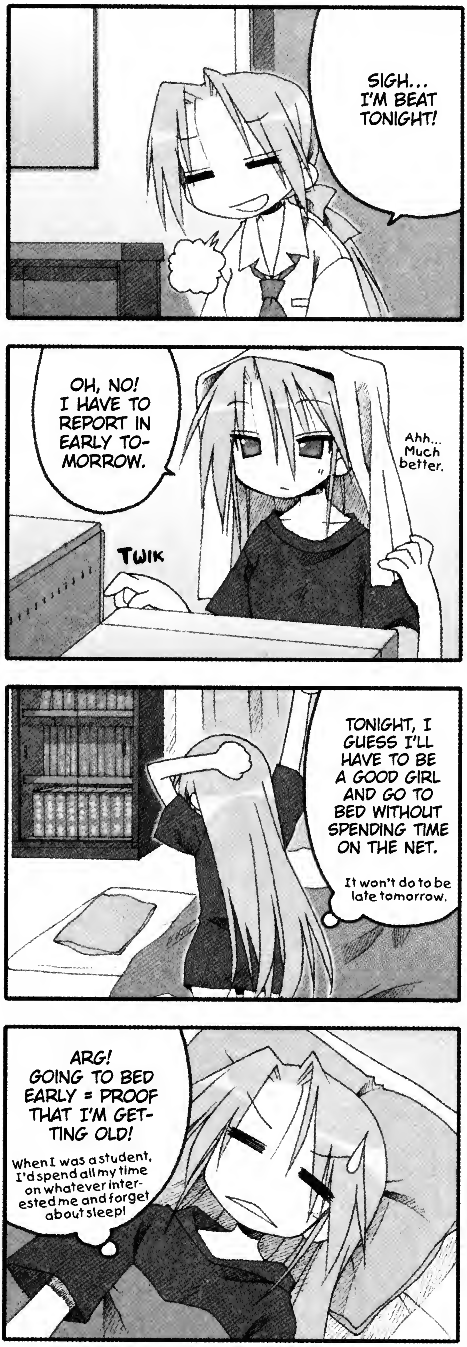

Just answer this question, and you can receive 1,000,000 yen!
ABOUT $10,000.
THEY'RE ALWAYS GIVING AWAY PRIZES AND MONEY ON QUIZ SHOWS AND VARIETY SHOWS, HUH?
I GUESS IT'S A WAY TO GET THE POPULAR TALENT ON THEIR SHOWS.
AND WHEN POPULAR TALENT COME ON THE SHOW, THEY GET BETTER RATINGS.
THAT COULD BE TRUE, BUT...
I admit I don't know much about it...
STILL, IF THE GOAL IS TO GET MORE VIEWERS ...
...WOULDN'T IT BE QUICKER AND MORE EFFECTIVE JUST TO GIVE THE MONEY TO VIEWERS DIRECTLY?
I WAS SORT OF THINKING THE SAME THING. CUT OUT THE MIDDLEMAN!

● Comptiq, October 2005 issue

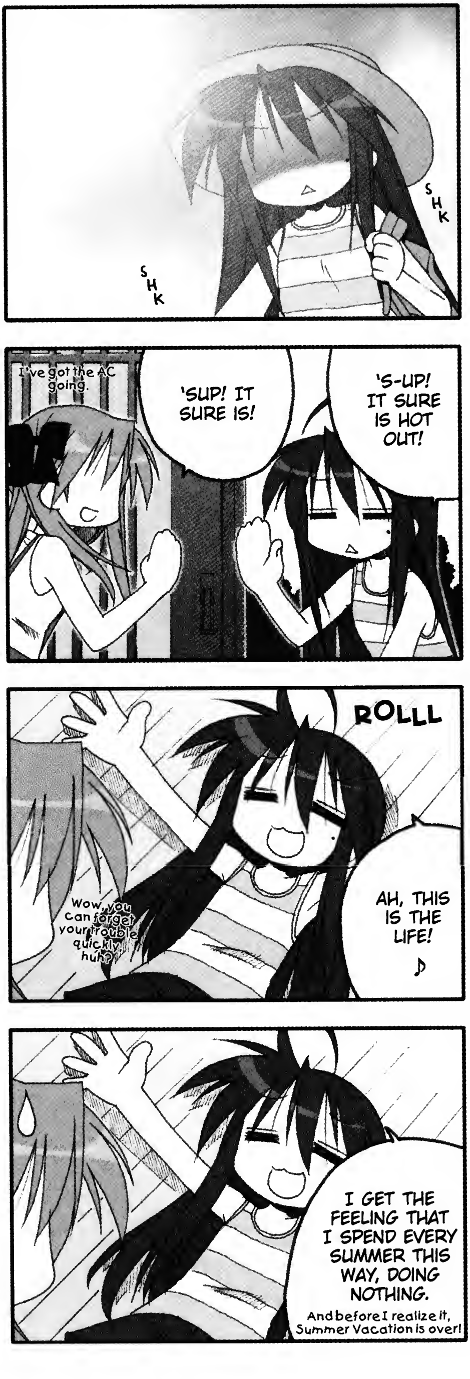
tranquil days


'MORNING!
'Sup!
AS I WAS PLAYING A GAME TODAY, IT SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO ME...
JUST WHO EXACTLY IS THE "IDOL" OF OUR SCHOOL?
DEFINE "IDOL OF OUR SCHOOL"!
What, do you mean a girl crowned Miss Ryou-ou or something?
YEAH, I GUESS SO. THAT'S HOW IT NORMALLY HAPPENS, RIGHT?
You know, with groupies and everything.
That's how the theory goes in with the games.

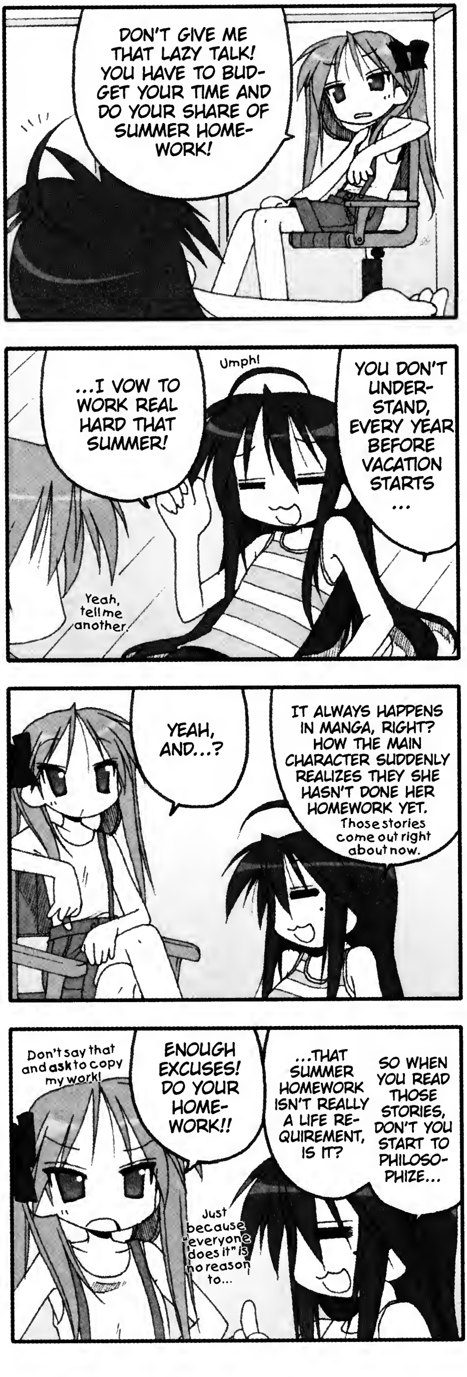
lines are drawn

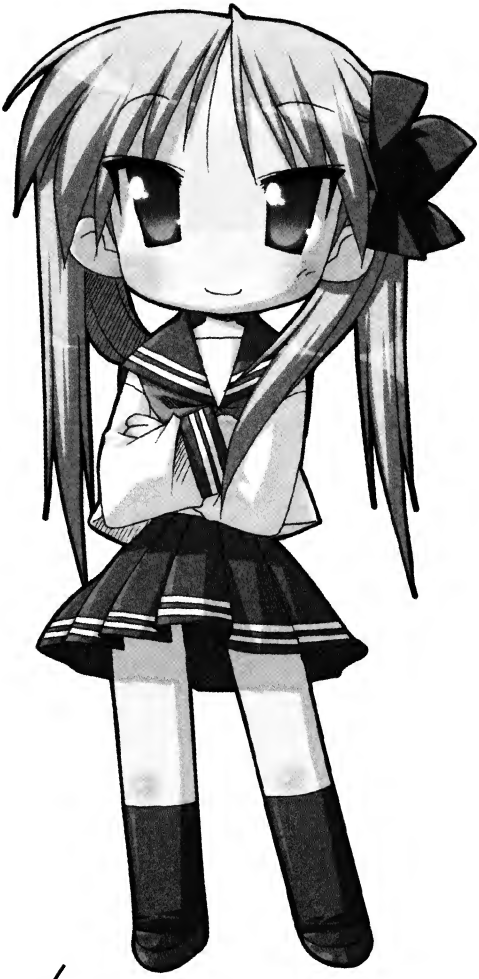

SIGH... I'M BEAT TONIGHT!
OH, NO! I HAVE TO REPORT IN EARLY TOMORROW.
Ahh... Much better.
TWIK
TONIGHT, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BE A GOOD GIRL AND GO TO BED WITHOUT SPENDING TIME ON THE NET.
It won't do to be late tomorrow.
ARG! GOING TO BED EARLY = PROOF THAT I'M GETTING OLD!
When I was a student, I'd spend all my time on whatever interested me and forget about sleep!

how to spend your summer


SHK
SHK
'S-UP! IT SURE IS HOT OUT!
'SUP! IT SURE IS!
I've got the AC going.
ROLLL
AH, THIS IS THE LIFE! ♪
Wow, you can forget your trouble quickly, huh?
I GET THE FEELING THAT I SPEND EVERY SUMMER THIS WAY, DOING NOTHING.
And before I realize it, Summer Vacation is over!

orders


DON'T GIVE ME THAT LAZY TALK! YOU HAVE TO BUDGET YOUR TIME AND DO YOUR SHARE OF SUMMER HOMEWORK!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, EVERY YEAR BEFORE VACATION STARTS ...
Umph!
...I VOW TO WORK REAL HARD THAT SUMMER!
Yeah, tell me another.
IT ALWAYS HAPPENS IN MANGA, RIGHT? HOW THE MAIN CHARACTER SUDDENLY REALIZES THEY SHE HASN'T DONE HER HOMEWORK YET.
Those stories come out right about now.
YEAH, AND...?
SO WHEN YOU READ THOSE STORIES, DON'T YOU START TO PHILOSOPHIZE...
...THAT SUMMER HOMEWORK ISN'T REALLY A LIFE REQUIREMENT, IS IT?
ENOUGH EXCUSES! DO YOUR HOMEWORK!!
Don't say that and ask to copy my work!
Just because "everyone does it" is no reason to...



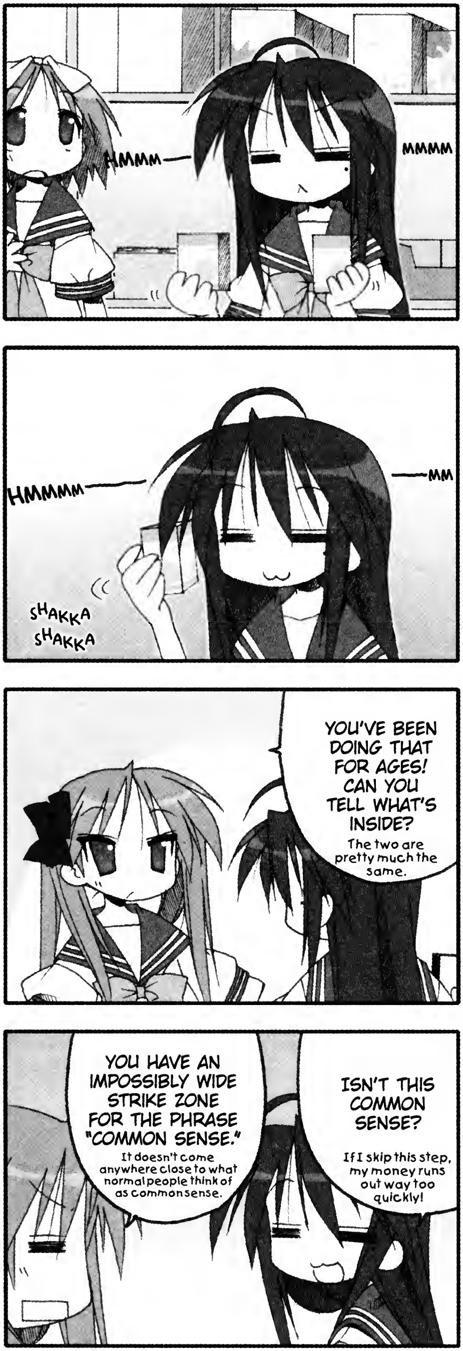
KAGAMI HIIRAGI

strong point: english class
weak point: home economics
Plays straight man and tsukkomi-style foil.
She is a good student, but also has many weaknesses.
Her penchant for frequent snacks makes her depressed every time she steps on the scale.

Lucky☆Star

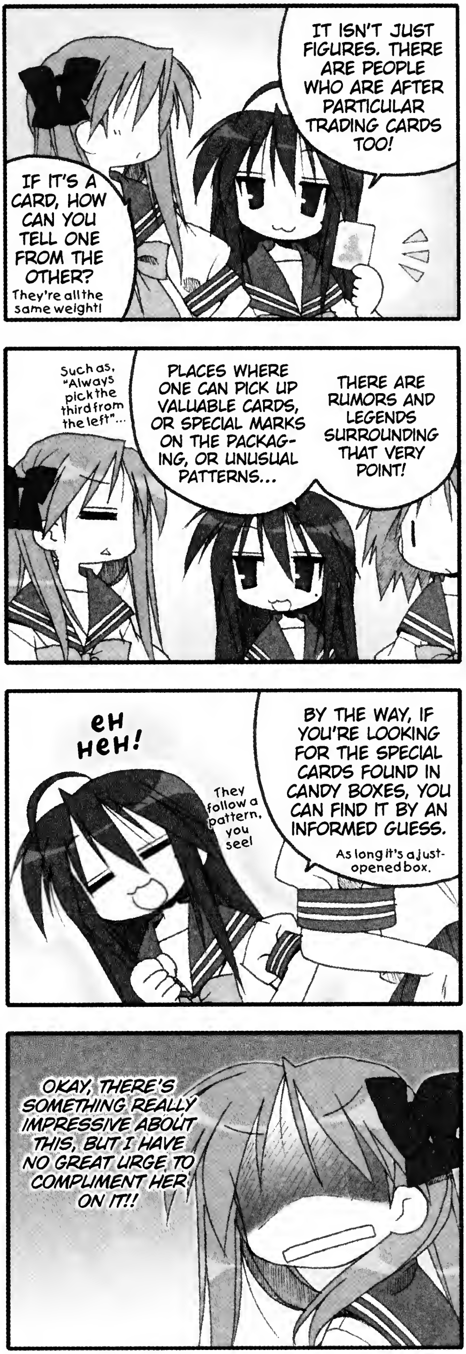
episode 61
hard worker

expert opinion

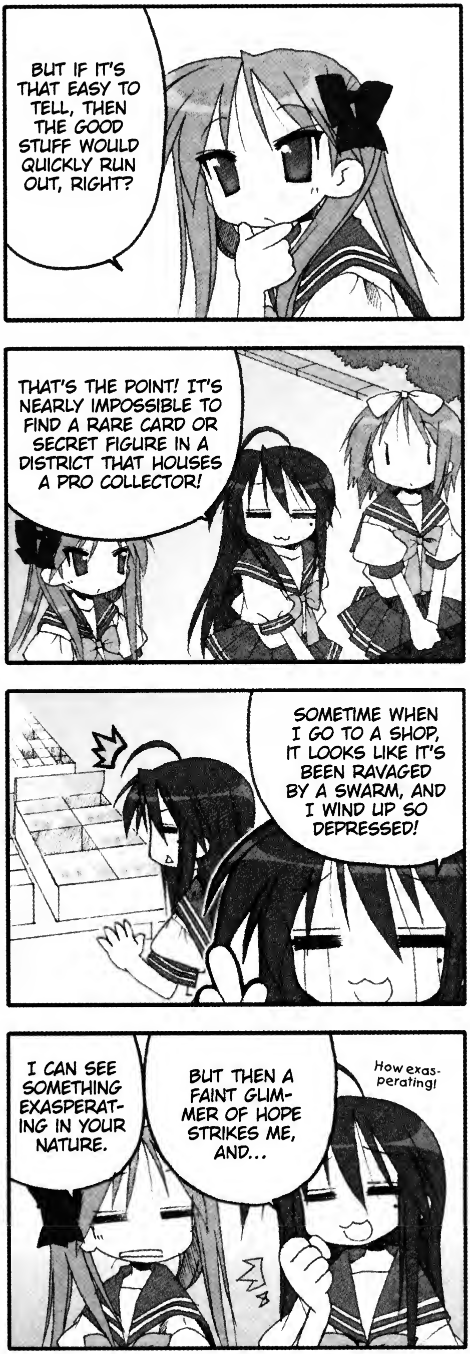

HMMM—
MMMM
HMMMM—
—MM
SHAKKA SHAKKA
YOU'VE BEEN DOING THAT FOR AGES! CAN YOU TELL WHAT'S INSIDE? The two are pretty much the same.
ISN'T THIS COMMON SENSE? If I skip this step, my money runs out way too quickly!
YOU HAVE AN IMPOSSIBLY WIDE STRIKE ZONE FOR THE PHRASE "COMMON SENSE." It doesn't come anywhere close to what normal people think of as common sense.

● Comptiq, October 2005 issue

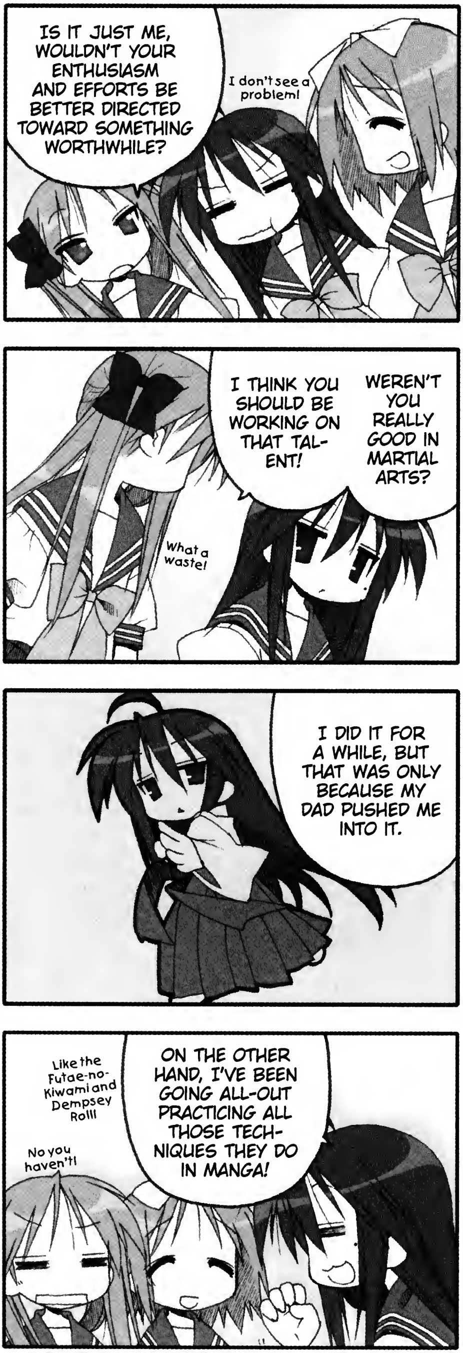
why obsession should be beautiful


IT ISN'T JUST FIGURES. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE AFTER PARTICULAR TRADING CARDS TOO!
IF IT'S A CARD, HOW CAN YOU TELL ONE FROM THE OTHER?
They're all the same weight!
THERE ARE RUMORS AND LEGENDS SURROUNDING THAT VERY POINT!
PLACES WHERE ONE CAN PICK UP VALUABLE CARDS, OR SPECIAL MARKS ON THE PACKAGING, OR UNUSUAL PATTERNS...
Such as, "Always pick the third from the left"...
BY THE WAY, IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE SPECIAL CARDS FOUND IN CANDY BOXES, YOU CAN FIND IT BY AN INFORMED GUESS.
As long it's a just-opened box.
They follow a pattern, you see!
EH HEH!
OKAY, THERE'S SOMETHING REALLY IMPRESSIVE ABOUT THIS, BUT I HAVE NO GREAT URGE TO COMPLIMENT HER ON IT!!

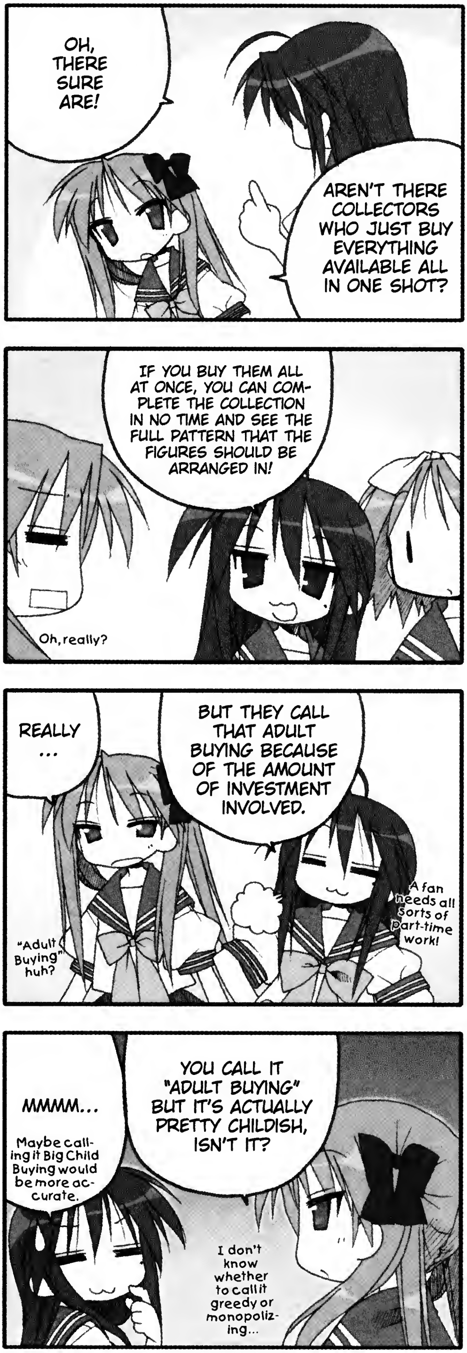
treasure hunt

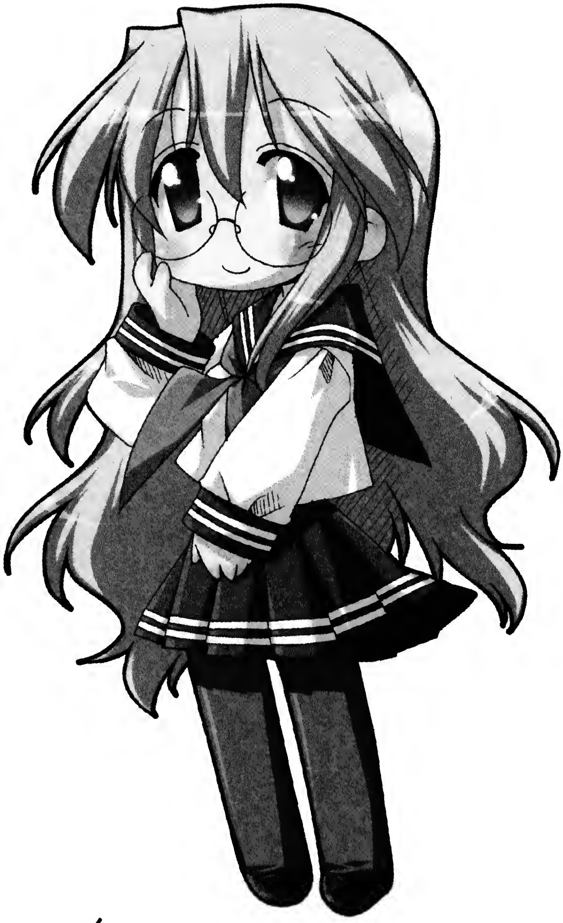

BUT IF IT'S THAT EASY TO TELL, THEN THE GOOD STUFF WOULD QUICKLY RUN OUT, RIGHT?
THAT'S THE POINT! IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A RARE CARD OR SECRET FIGURE IN A DISTRICT THAT HOUSES A PRO COLLECTOR!
SOMETIME WHEN I GO TO A SHOP, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN RAVAGED BY A SWARM, AND I WIND UP SO DEPRESSED!
How exasperating!
BUT THEN A FAINT GLIMMER OF HOPE STRIKES ME, AND...
I CAN SEE SOMETHING EXASPERATING IN YOUR NATURE.

just slightly better than tag


IS IT JUST ME, WOULDN'T YOUR ENTHUSIASM AND EFFORTS BE BETTER DIRECTED TOWARD SOMETHING WORTHWHILE?
I don't see a problem!
WEREN'T YOU REALLY GOOD IN MARTIAL ARTS?
I THINK YOU SHOULD BE WORKING ON THAT TALENT!
What a waste!
I DID IT FOR A WHILE, BUT THAT WAS ONLY BECAUSE MY DAD PUSHED ME INTO IT.
ON THE OTHER HAND, I'VE BEEN GOING ALL-OUT PRACTICING ALL THOSE TECHNIQUES THEY DO IN MANGA!
Like the Futae-no-Kiwami and Dempsey Roll!
No you haven't!

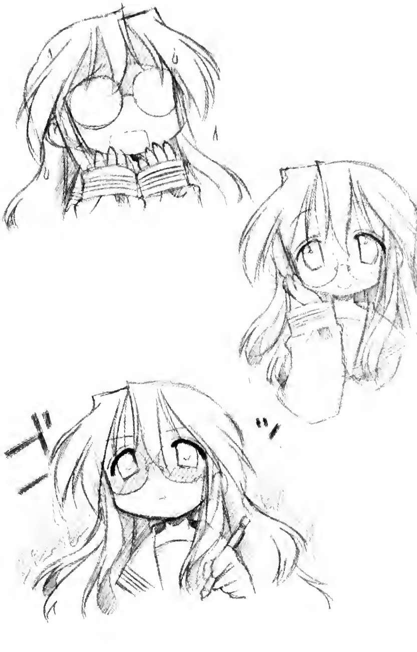
never forget your inner child


AREN'T THERE COLLECTORS WHO JUST BUY EVERYTHING AVAILABLE ALL IN ONE SHOT?
OH, THERE SURE ARE!
IF YOU BUY THEM ALL AT ONCE, YOU CAN COMPLETE THE COLLECTION IN NO TIME AND SEE THE FULL PATTERN THAT THE FIGURES SHOULD BE ARRANGED IN!
Oh, really?
BUT THEY CALL THAT ADULT BUYING BECAUSE OF THE AMOUNT OF INVESTMENT INVOLVED.
REALLY ...
A fan needs all sorts of part-time work!
"Adult Buying" huh?
YOU CALL IT "ADULT BUYING" BUT IT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY CHILDISH, ISN'T IT?
MMMM...
Maybe calling it Big Child Buying would be more accurate.
I don't know whether to call it greedy or monopolizing...



MIYUKI TAKARA

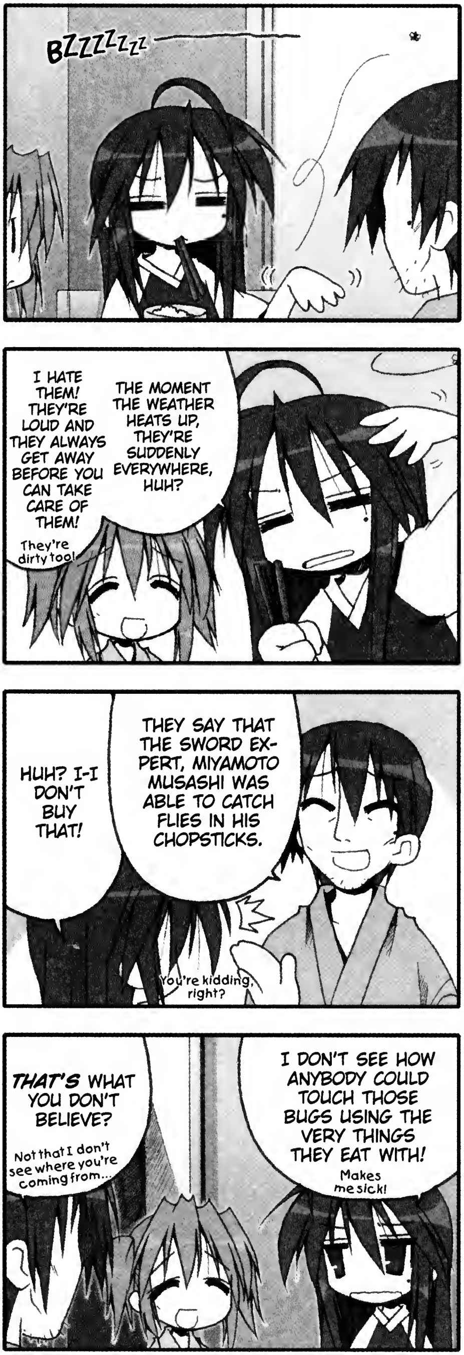
strong point: none to speak of
weak point: none to speak of
She is the type who likes knowledge and finds studying fun.
Although there is a question of whether she has no power of concentration, or whether she just zones out at times.
Her gentle manners has made her a cushion softening possible conflicts around her.
She's afraid of hospitals and doctors (especially dentists).



free loader

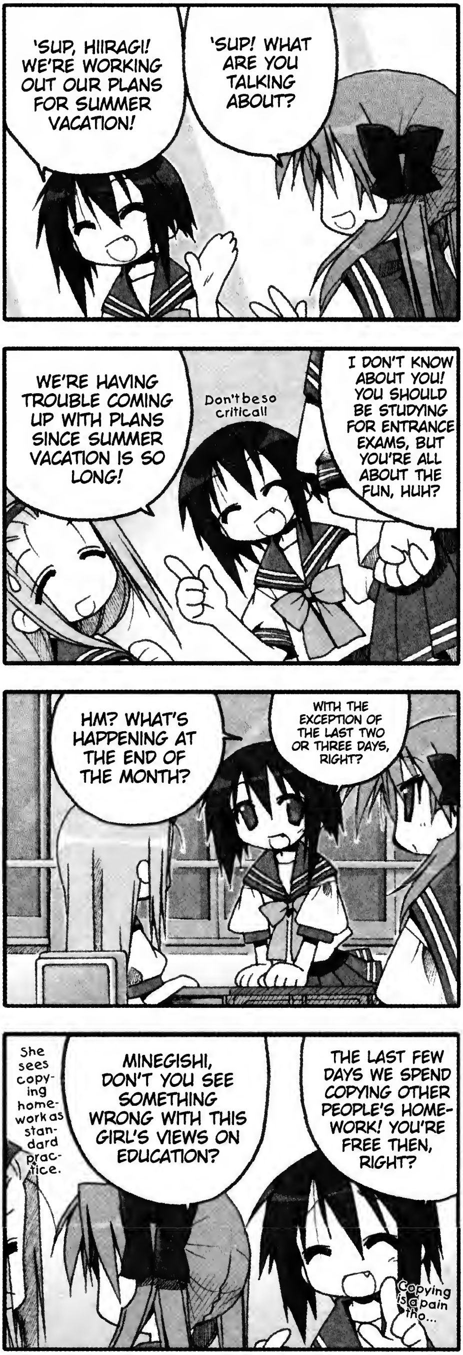
Lucky☆Star

episode 62
the world revolves around me

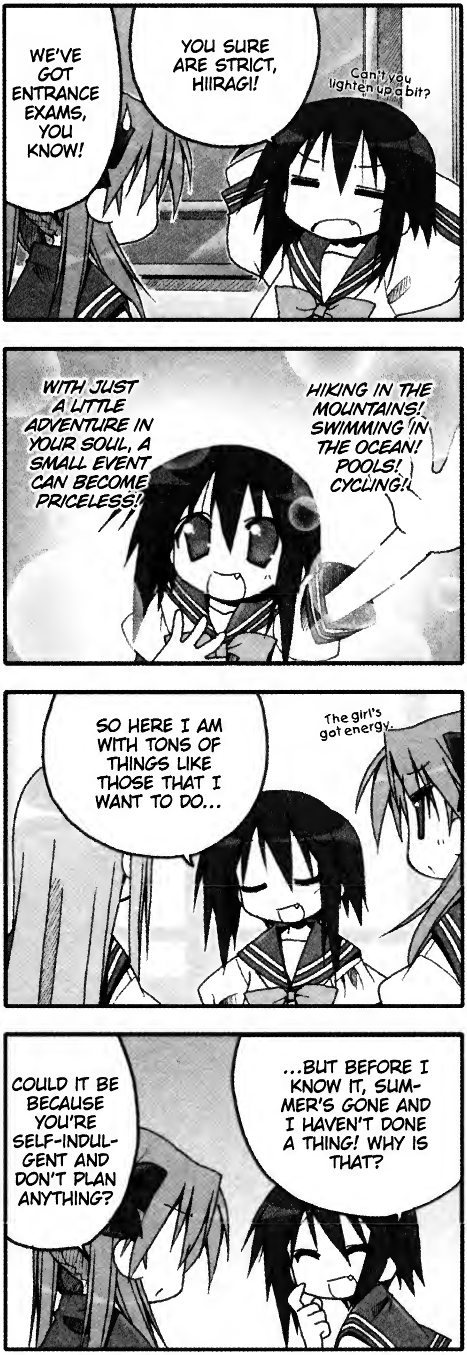

BZZZZzzz
THE MOMENT THE WEATHER HEATS UP, THEY'RE SUDDENLY EVERYWHERE, HUH?
I HATE THEM! THEY'RE LOUD AND THEY ALWAYS GET AWAY BEFORE YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM!
They're dirty too!
THEY SAY THAT THE SWORD EXPERT, MIYAMOTO MUSASHI WAS ABLE TO CATCH FLIES IN HIS CHOPSTICKS.
HUH? I-I DON'T BUY THAT!
You're kidding, right?
I DON'T SEE HOW ANYBODY COULD TOUCH THOSE BUGS USING THE VERY THINGS THEY EAT WITH!
Makes me sick!
THAT'S WHAT YOU DON'T BELIEVE?
Not that I don't see where you're coming from...

● Shonen Ace, October 2005 issue

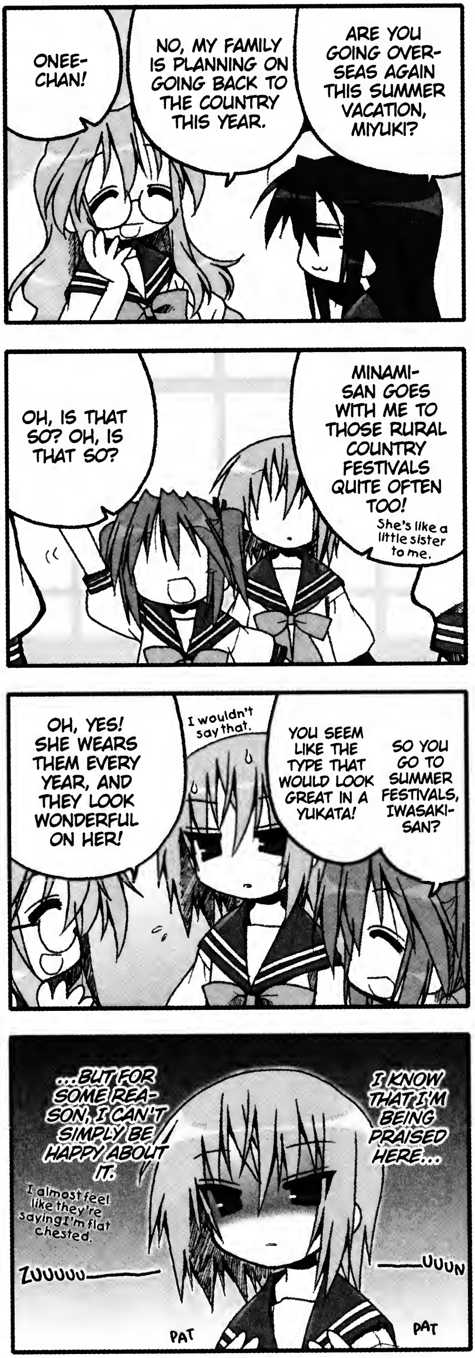
schedule


'SUP! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
'SUP, HIIRAGI! WE'RE WORKING OUT OUR PLANS FOR SUMMER VACATION!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU! YOU SHOULD BE STUDYING FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS, BUT YOU'RE ALL ABOUT THE FUN, HUH?
Don't be so critical!
WE'RE HAVING TROUBLE COMING UP WITH PLANS SINCE SUMMER VACATION IS SO LONG!
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS, RIGHT?
HM? WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE END OF THE MONTH?
THE LAST FEW DAYS WE SPEND COPYING OTHER PEOPLE'S HOMEWORK! YOU'RE FREE THEN, RIGHT?
Copying is a pain tho...
MINEGISHI, DON'T YOU SEE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS GIRL'S VIEWS ON EDUCATION?
She sees copying homework as standard practice.

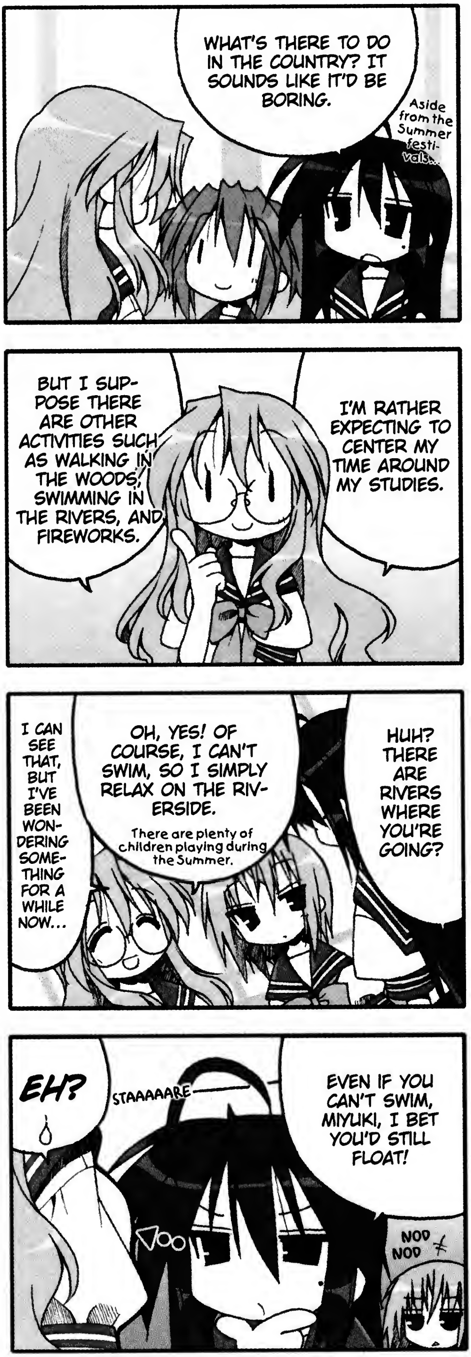
falling through the educational cracks


Can't you lighten up a bit?
YOU SURE ARE STRICT, HIIRAGI!
WE'VE GOT ENTRANCE EXAMS, YOU KNOW!
HIKING IN THE MOUNTAINS! SWIMMING IN THE OCEAN! POOLS! CYCLING!
WITH JUST A LITTLE ADVENTURE IN YOUR SOUL, A SMALL EVENT CAN BECOME PRICELESS!
The girl's got energy.
SO HERE I AM WITH TONS OF THINGS LIKE THOSE THAT I WANT TO DO...
...BUT BEFORE I KNOW IT, SUMMER'S GONE AND I HAVEN'T DONE A THING! WHY IS THAT?
COULD IT BE BECAUSE YOU'RE SELF-INDULGENT AND DON'T PLAN ANYTHING?

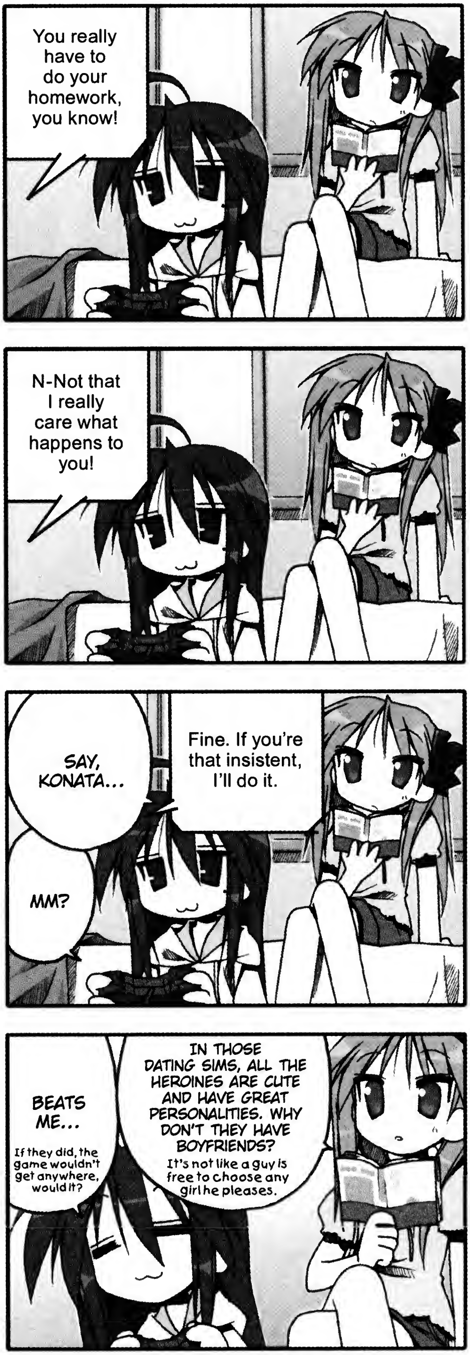
pretty girl in a kimono


ARE YOU GOING OVERSEAS AGAIN THIS SUMMER VACATION, MIYUKI?
NO, MY FAMILY IS PLANNING ON GOING BACK TO THE COUNTRY THIS YEAR.
ONEE-CHAN!
MINAMI-SAN GOES WITH ME TO THOSE RURAL COUNTRY FESTIVALS QUITE OFTEN TOO!
She's like a little sister to me.
OH, IS THAT SO? OH, IS THAT SO?
SO YOU GO TO SUMMER FESTIVALS, IWASAKI-SAN?
YOU SEEM LIKE THE TYPE THAT WOULD LOOK GREAT IN A YUKATA!
I wouldn't say that.
OH, YES! SHE WEARS THEM EVERY YEAR, AND THEY LOOK WONDERFUL ON HER!
I KNOW THAT I'M BEING PRAISED HERE...
...BUT FOR SOME REASON, I CAN'T SIMPLY BE HAPPY ABOUT IT.
I almost feel like they're saying I'm flat chested.
ZUUUUU——
——UUUN
PAT
PAT

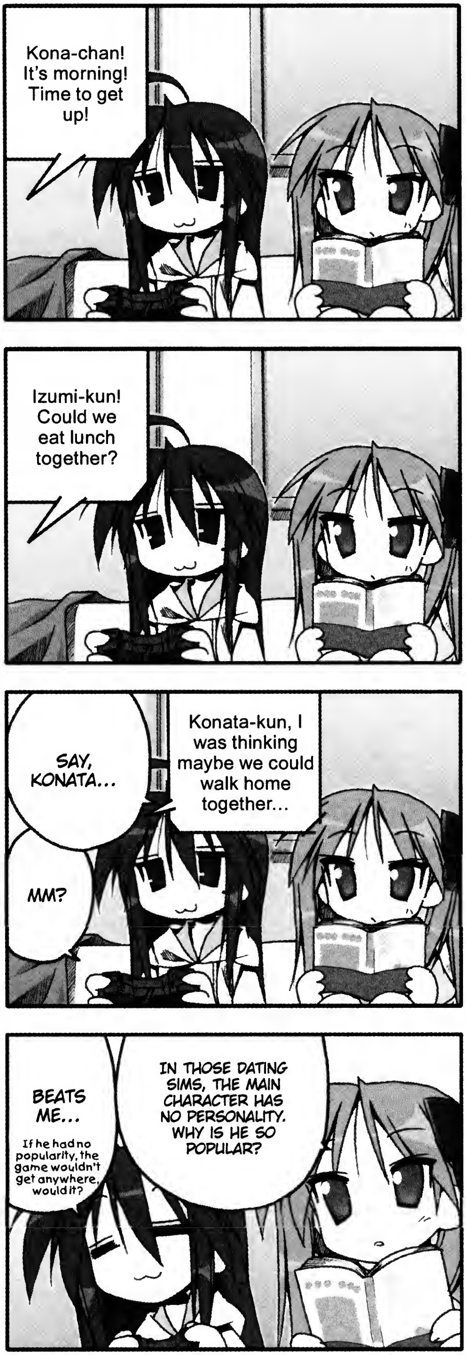
like beach balls

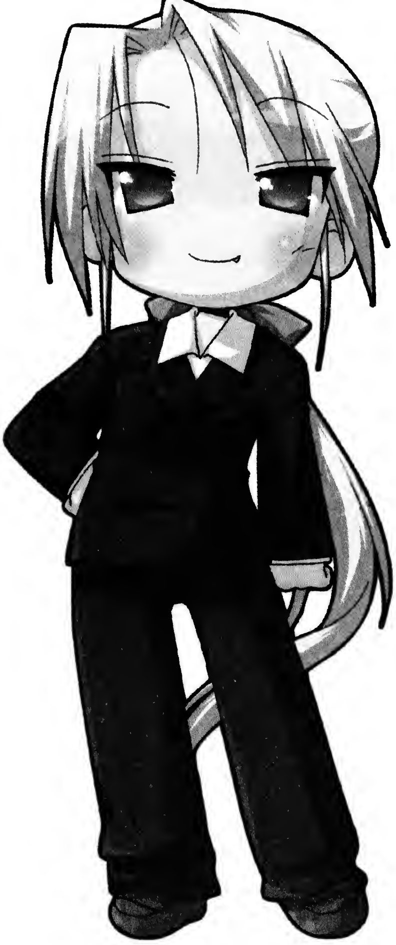

Aside from the Summer festivals...
WHAT'S THERE TO DO IN THE COUNTRY? IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'D BE BORING.
I'M RATHER EXPECTING TO CENTER MY TIME AROUND MY STUDIES.
BUT I SUPPOSE THERE ARE OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS WALKING IN THE WOODS, SWIMMING IN THE RIVERS, AND FIREWORKS.
HUH? THERE ARE RIVERS WHERE YOU'RE GOING?
OH, YES! OF COURSE, I CAN'T SWIM, SO I SIMPLY RELAX ON THE RIVERSIDE.
There are plenty of children playing during the Summer.
I CAN SEE THAT, BUT I'VE BEEN WONDERING SOMETHING FOR A WHILE NOW...
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T SWIM, MIYUKI, I BET YOU'D STILL FLOAT!
NOD NOD
STAAAAAARE——
EH?

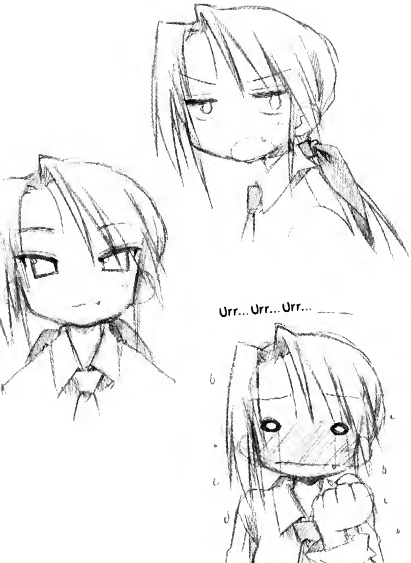
repulsive force


You really have to do your homework, you know!
N-Not that I really care what happens to you!
Fine. If you're that insistent, I'll do it.
SAY, KONATA...
MM?
IN THOSE DATING SIMS, ALL THE HEROINES ARE CUTE AND HAVE GREAT PERSONALITIES. WHY DON'T THEY HAVE BOYFRIENDS?
It's not like a guy is free to choose any girl he pleases.
BEATS ME...
If they did, the game wouldn't get anywhere, would it?

gravitation


Kona-chan! It's morning! Time to get up!
Izumi-kun! Could we eat lunch together?
Konata-kun, I was thinking maybe we could walk home together...
SAY, KONATA...
MM?
IN THOSE DATING SIMS, THE MAIN CHARACTER HAS NO PERSONALITY. WHY IS HE SO POPULAR?
BEATS ME...
If he had no popularity, the game wouldn't get anywhere, would it?





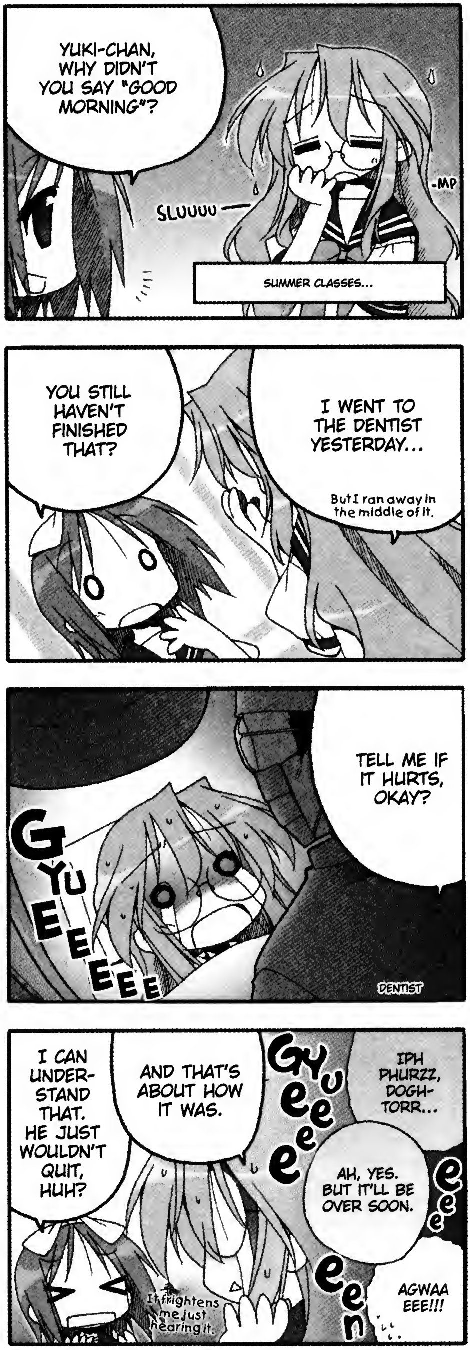
NANAKO KUROI

strong point: world history
weak point: english
The homeroom teacher for Konata's class. A very friendly teacher and popular with her students.
Her hobbies are watching baseball and playing net games, so her weekends are pretty full.

Lucky☆Star

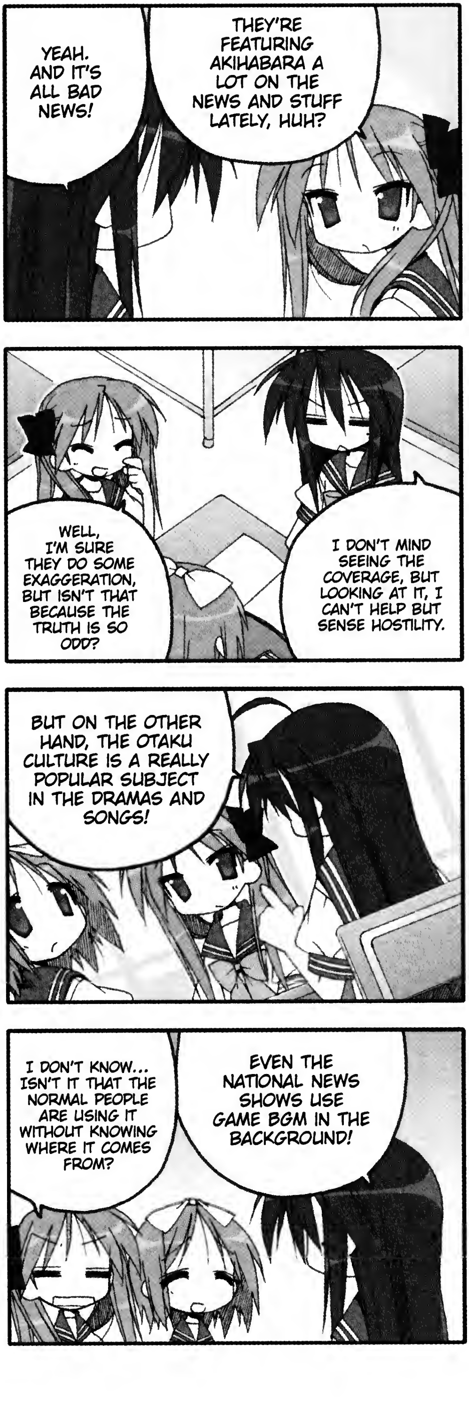
episode 63
truth and appearances

just hearing

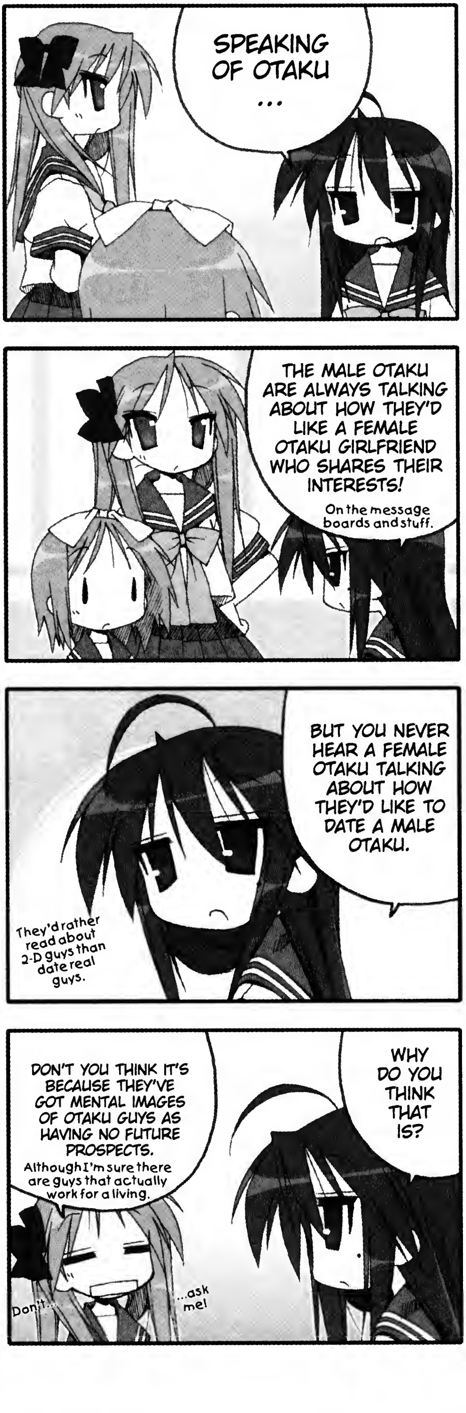

SUMMER CLASSES...
SLUUUU—
-MP
YUKI-CHAN, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY "GOOD MORNING"?
I WENT TO THE DENTIST YESTERDAY...
But I ran away in the middle of it.
YOU STILL HAVEN'T FINISHED THAT?
TELL ME IF IT HURTS, OKAY?
GYUEEEEEE
DENTIST
IPH PHURZZ, DOGH-TORR...
AH, YES. BUT IT'LL BE OVER SOON.
GYueeeeeeeeeen
AGWAA EEE!!!
AND THAT'S ABOUT HOW IT WAS.
I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT. HE JUST WOULDN'T QUIT, HUH?
It frightens me just hearing it.

● Comptiq, November 2005 issue

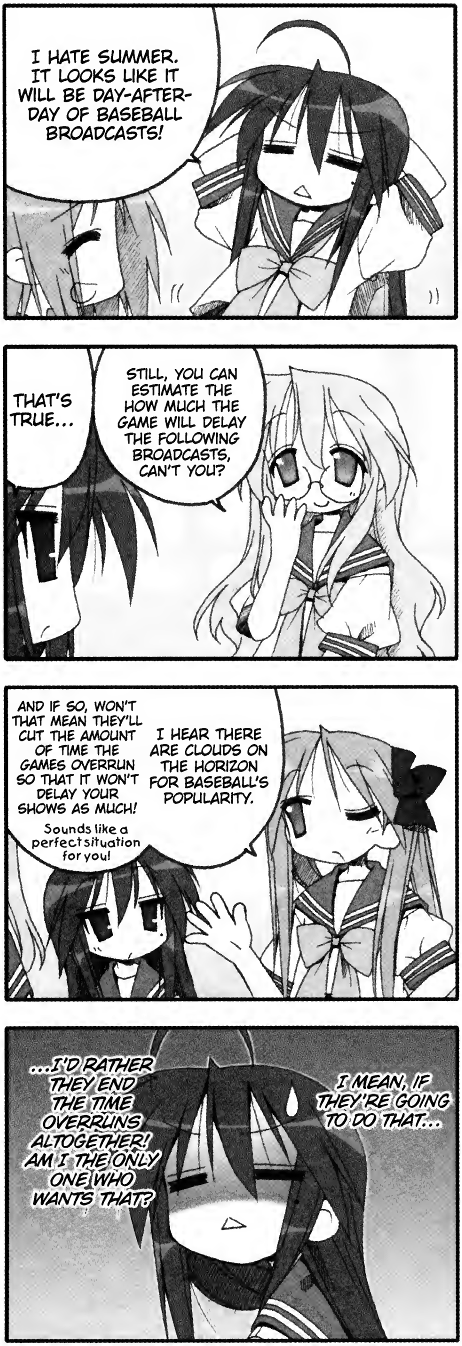
hard at work


THEY'RE FEATURING AKIHABARA A LOT ON THE NEWS AND STUFF LATELY, HUH?
YEAH. AND IT'S ALL BAD NEWS!
I DON'T MIND SEEING THE COVERAGE, BUT LOOKING AT IT, I CAN'T HELP BUT SENSE HOSTILITY.
WELL, I'M SURE THEY DO SOME EXAGGERATION, BUT ISN'T THAT BECAUSE THE TRUTH IS SO ODD?
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, THE OTAKU CULTURE IS A REALLY POPULAR SUBJECT IN THE DRAMAS AND SONGS!
EVEN THE NATIONAL NEWS SHOWS USE GAME BGM IN THE BACKGROUND!
I DON'T KNOW... ISN'T IT THAT THE NORMAL PEOPLE ARE USING IT WITHOUT KNOWING WHERE IT COMES FROM?

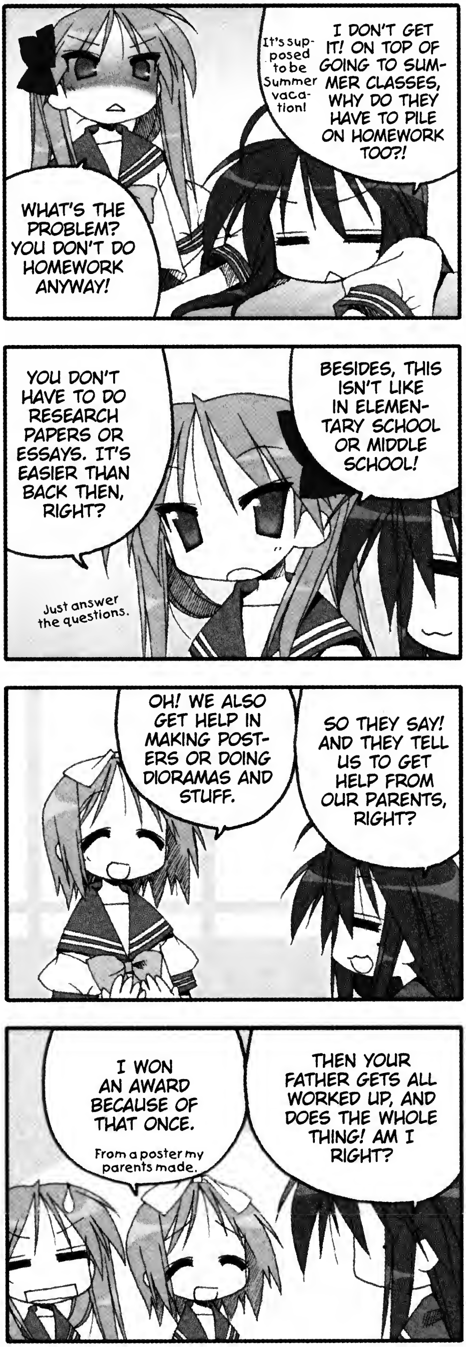
what about you?

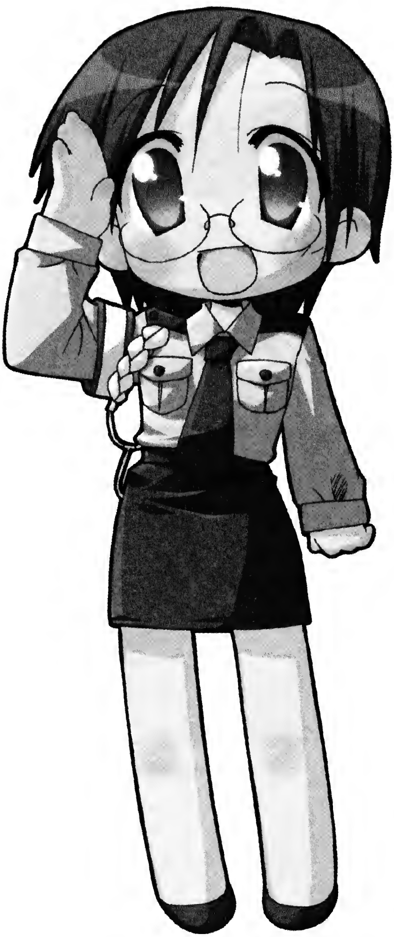

SPEAKING OF OTAKU ...
THE MALE OTAKU ARE ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT HOW THEY'D LIKE A FEMALE OTAKU GIRLFRIEND WHO SHARES THEIR INTERESTS!
On the message boards and stuff.
BUT YOU NEVER HEAR A FEMALE OTAKU TALKING ABOUT HOW THEY'D LIKE TO DATE A MALE OTAKU.
They'd rather read about 2-D guys than date real guys.
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE THEY'VE GOT MENTAL IMAGES OF OTAKU GUYS AS HAVING NO FUTURE PROSPECTS.
Although I'm sure there are guys that actually work for a living.
...ask me!
Don't...

waffling


I HATE SUMMER. IT LOOKS LIKE IT WILL BE DAY-AFTER-DAY OF BASEBALL BROADCASTS!
STILL, YOU CAN ESTIMATE THE HOW MUCH THE GAME WILL DELAY THE FOLLOWING BROADCASTS, CAN'T YOU?
THAT'S TRUE…
I HEAR THERE ARE CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON FOR BASEBALL'S POPULARITY.
AND IF SO, WON'T THAT MEAN THEY'LL CUT THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE GAMES OVERRUN SO THAT IT WON'T DELAY YOUR SHOWS AS MUCH!
Sounds like a perfect situation for you!
I MEAN, IF THEY'RE GOING TO DO THAT…
…I'D RATHER THEY END THE TIME OVERRUNS ALTOGETHER! AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO WANTS THAT?

recovering youth


I DON'T GET IT! ON TOP OF GOING TO SUMMER CLASSES, WHY DO THEY HAVE TO PILE ON HOMEWORK TOO?!
It's supposed to be Summer vacation!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? YOU DON'T DO HOMEWORK ANYWAY!
BESIDES, THIS ISN'T LIKE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OR MIDDLE SCHOOL!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO RESEARCH PAPERS OR ESSAYS. IT'S EASIER THAN BACK THEN, RIGHT?
Just answer the questions.
SO THEY SAY! AND THEY TELL US TO GET HELP FROM OUR PARENTS, RIGHT?
OH! WE ALSO GET HELP IN MAKING POSTERS OR DOING DIORAMAS AND STUFF.
THEN YOUR FATHER GETS ALL WORKED UP, AND DOES THE WHOLE THING! AM I RIGHT?
I WON AN AWARD BECAUSE OF THAT ONCE.
From a poster my parents made.



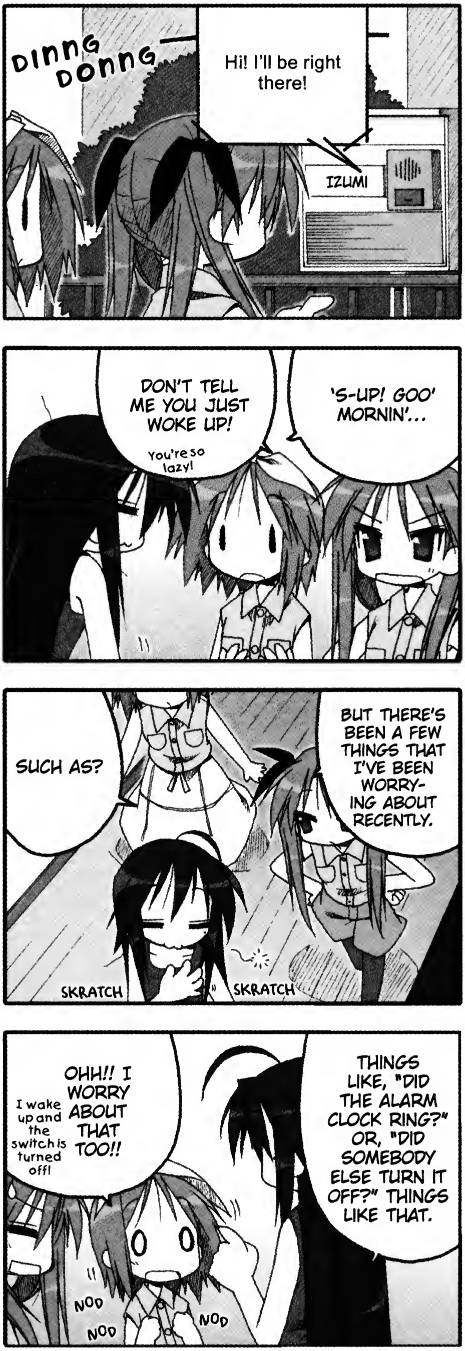
YUI NARUMI

strong point: ethics class
weak point: math
A runaway train of recklessness.
Lives a happy life of energy and impulse.
Unusually responsible when it comes to looking after others, she often pays visits to the Izumi household.
Habitually says, "That's a surprise!"

is it working?

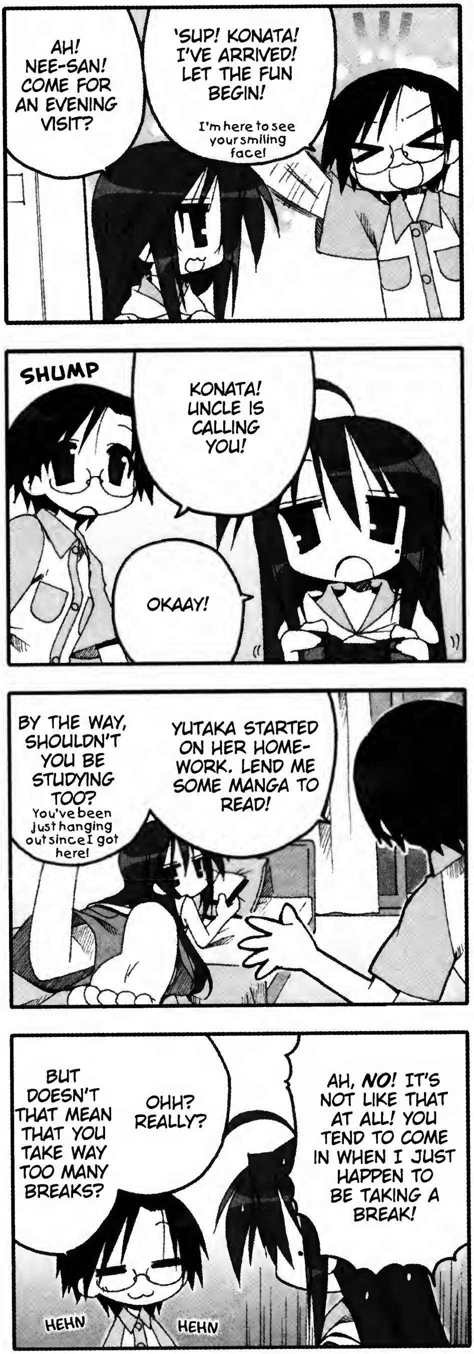
Lucky☆Star

episode 64
leaving your future to others

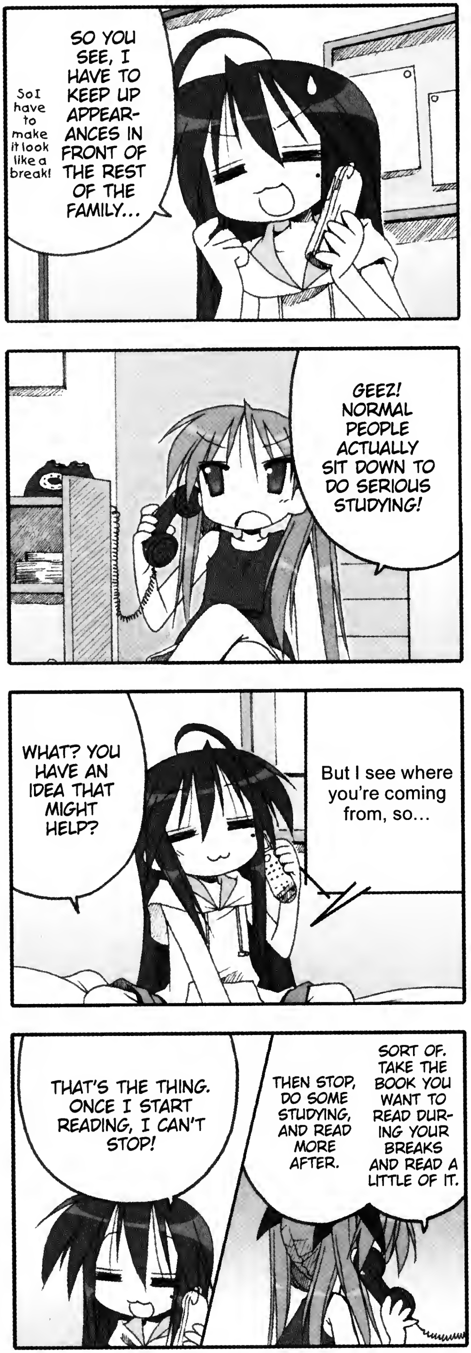

DINNG DONNG—
Hi! I'll be right there!
IZUMI
'S-UP! GOO' MORNIN'...
DON'T TELL ME YOU JUST WOKE UP!
You're so lazy!
BUT THERE'S BEEN A FEW THINGS THAT I'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT RECENTLY.
SUCH AS?
SKRATCH
SKRATCH
THINGS LIKE, "DID THE ALARM CLOCK RING?" OR, "DID SOMEBODY ELSE TURN IT OFF?" THINGS LIKE THAT.
OHH!! I WORRY ABOUT THAT TOO!!
I wake up and the switch is turned off!
NOD
NOD
NOD

● Comptiq, November 2005 issue

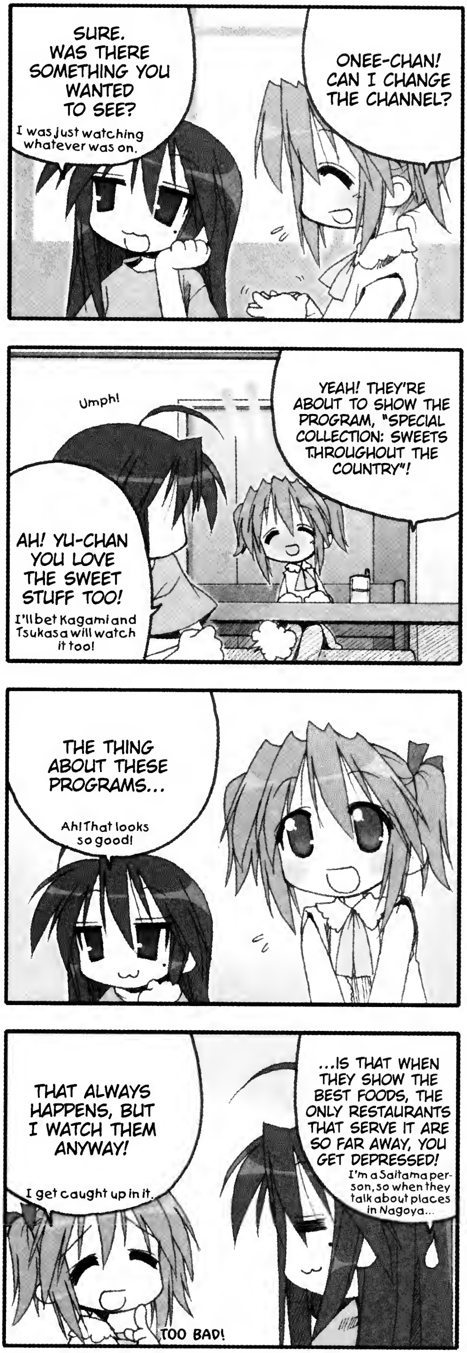
so she says


'SUP! KONATA! I'VE ARRIVED! LET THE FUN BEGIN!
I'm here to see your smiling face!
AH! NEE-SAN! COME FOR AN EVENING VISIT?
SHUMP
KONATA! UNCLE IS CALLING YOU!
OKAAY!
YUTAKA STARTED ON HER HOMEWORK. LEND ME SOME MANGA TO READ!
BY THE WAY, SHOULDN'T YOU BE STUDYING TOO?
You've been just hanging out since I got here!
AH, NO! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL! YOU TEND TO COME IN WHEN I JUST HAPPEN TO BE TAKING A BREAK!
OHH? REALLY?
BUT DOESN'T THAT MEAN THAT YOU TAKE WAY TOO MANY BREAKS?
HEHN
HEHN

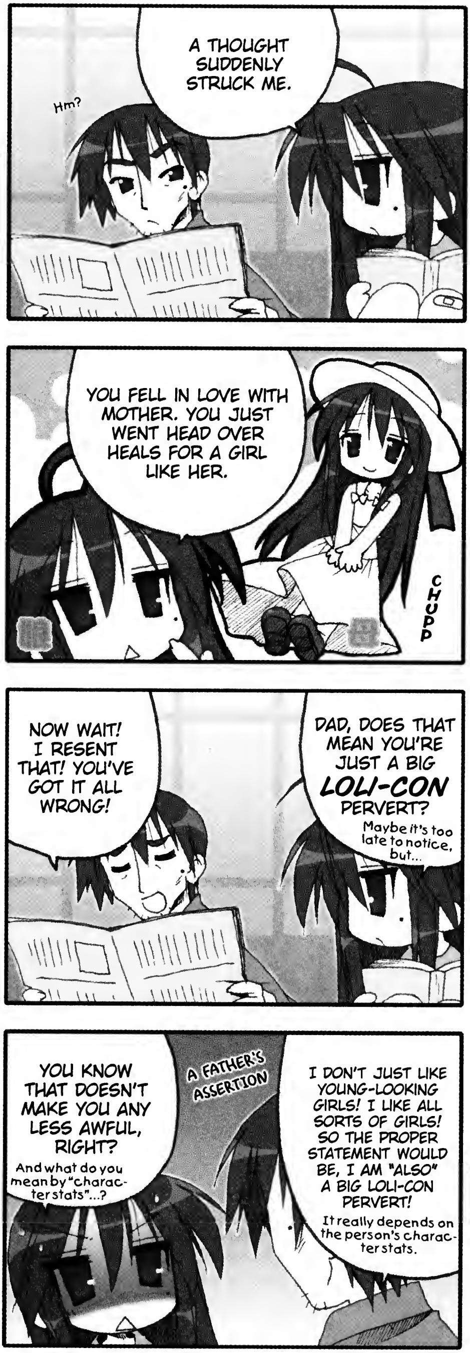
activist judge

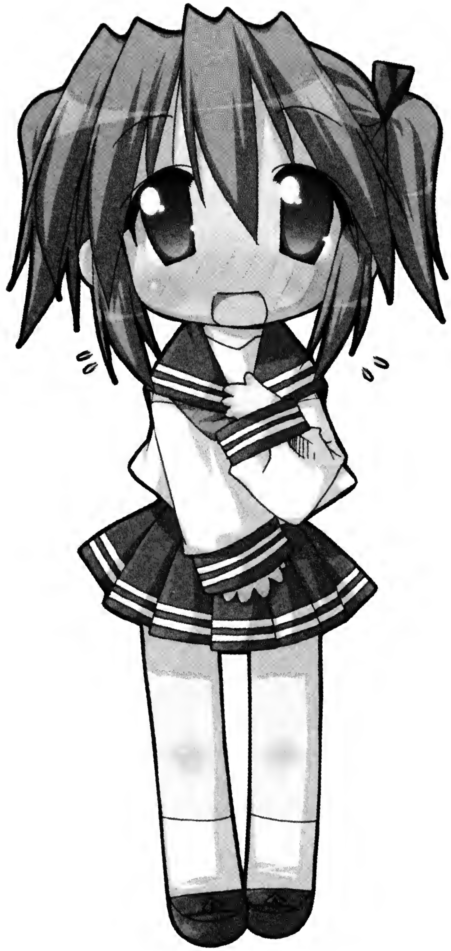

SO YOU SEE, I HAVE TO KEEP UP APPEARANCES IN FRONT OF THE REST OF THE FAMILY...
So I have to make it look like a break!
GEEZ! NORMAL PEOPLE ACTUALLY SIT DOWN TO DO SERIOUS STUDYING!
But I see where you're coming from, so…
WHAT? YOU HAVE AN IDEA THAT MIGHT HELP?
SORT OF. TAKE THE BOOK YOU WANT TO READ DURING YOUR BREAKS AND READ A LITTLE OF IT.
THEN STOP, DO SOME STUDYING, AND READ MORE AFTER.
THAT'S THE THING. ONCE I START READING, I CAN'T STOP!

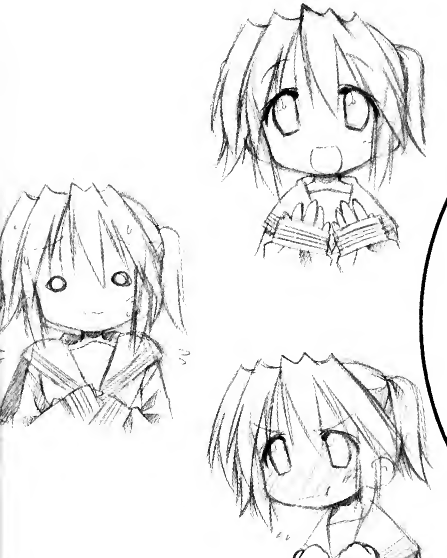
done for


ONEE-CHAN! CAN I CHANGE THE CHANNEL?
SURE. WAS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANTED TO SEE?
I was just watching whatever was on.
YEAH! THEY'RE ABOUT TO SHOW THE PROGRAM, "SPECIAL COLLECTION: SWEETS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY"!
Umph!
AH! YU-CHAN YOU LOVE THE SWEET STUFF TOO!
I'll bet Kagami and Tsukasa will watch it too!
THE THING ABOUT THESE PROGRAMS...
Ah! That looks so good!
...IS THAT WHEN THEY SHOW THE BEST FOODS, THE ONLY RESTAURANTS THAT SERVE IT ARE SO FAR AWAY, YOU GET DEPRESSED!
I'm a Saitama person, so when they talk about places in Nagoya...
THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS, BUT I WATCH THEM ANYWAY!
I get caught up in it.
TOO BAD!

assertion


A THOUGHT SUDDENLY STRUCK ME.
Hm?
YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH MOTHER. YOU JUST WENT HEAD OVER HEALS FOR A GIRL LIKE HER.
CHUPP
DAD, DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE JUST A BIG LOLI-CON PERVERT?
Maybe it's too late to notice, but...
NOW WAIT! I RESENT THAT! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!
I DON'T JUST LIKE YOUNG-LOOKING GIRLS! I LIKE ALL SORTS OF GIRLS! SO THE PROPER STATEMENT WOULD BE, I AM "ALSO" A BIG LOLI-CON PERVERT!
It really depends on the person's character stats.
A FATHER'S ASSERTION
YOU KNOW THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU ANY LESS AWFUL, RIGHT?
And what do you mean by "character stats"...?

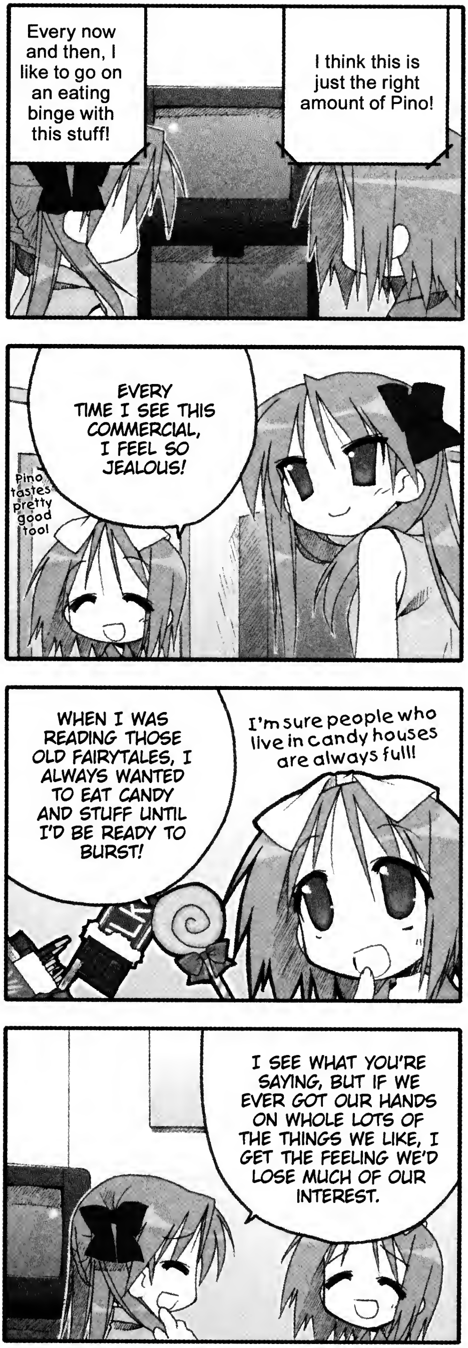




YUTAKA KOBAYAKAWA

strong point: japanese class
weak point: athletics
She's prone to sickness and rather weak, but she's been getting healthier since coming to Ryou-ou Academy.
Everybody has come to love her for her easy-to-get-along-with character and unguarded facial expressions.
She tends to do things without thinking.

too much of a good thing

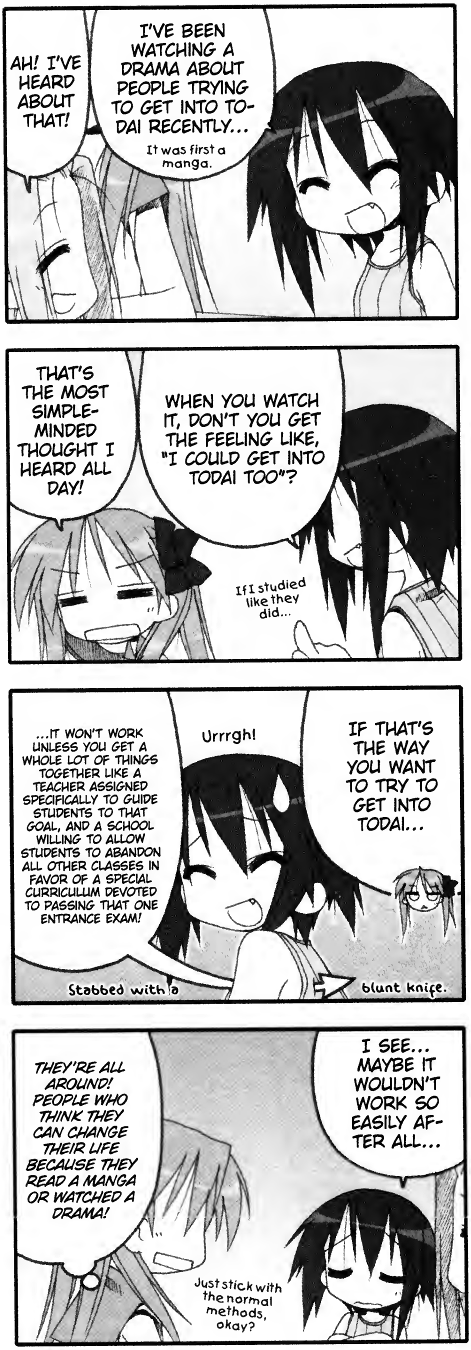

Every now and then, I like to go on an eating binge with this stuff!
I think this is just the right amount of Pino!
EVERY TIME I SEE THIS COMMERCIAL, I FEEL SO JEALOUS!
Pino tastes pretty good too!
WHEN I WAS READING THOSE OLD FAIRYTALES, I ALWAYS WANTED TO EAT CANDY AND STUFF UNTIL I'D BE READY TO BURST!
I'm sure people who live in candy houses are always full!
I SEE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT IF WE EVER GOT OUR HANDS ON WHOLE LOTS OF THE THINGS WE LIKE, I GET THE FEELING WE'D LOSE MUCH OF OUR INTEREST.

Lucky☆Star

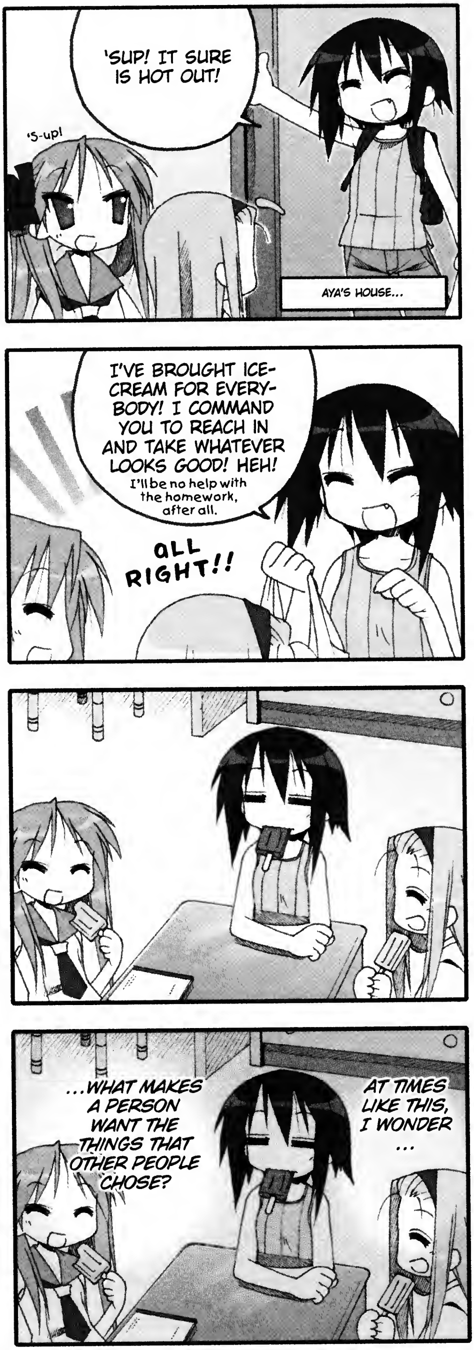
episode 65
free advice

● Shonen Ace, November 2005 issue

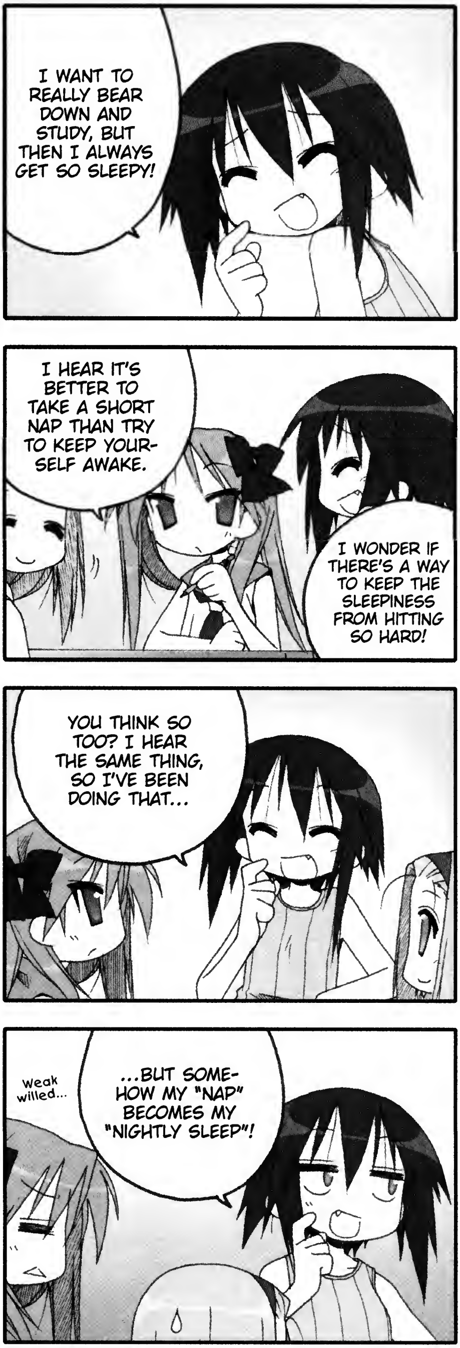
blank slate


I'VE BEEN WATCHING A DRAMA ABOUT PEOPLE TRYING TO GET INTO TODAI RECENTLY...
It was first a manga.
AH! I'VE HEARD ABOUT THAT!
WHEN YOU WATCH IT, DON'T YOU GET THE FEELING LIKE, "I COULD GET INTO TODAI TOO"?
If I studied like they did...
THAT'S THE MOST SIMPLE-MINDED THOUGHT I HEARD ALL DAY!
IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT TO TRY TO GET INTO TODAI...
Urrrgh!
...IT WON'T WORK UNLESS YOU GET A WHOLE LOT OF THINGS TOGETHER LIKE A TEACHER ASSIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO GUIDE STUDENTS TO THAT GOAL, AND A SCHOOL WILLING TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO ABANDON ALL OTHER CLASSES IN FAVOR OF A SPECIAL CURRICULUM DEVOTED TO PASSING THAT ONE ENTRANCE EXAM!
Stabbed with a
blunt knife.
I SEE... MAYBE IT WOULDN'T WORK SO EASILY AFTER ALL...
Just stick with the normal methods, okay?
THEY'RE ALL AROUND! PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THEIR LIFE BECAUSE THEY READ A MANGA OR WATCHED A DRAMA!

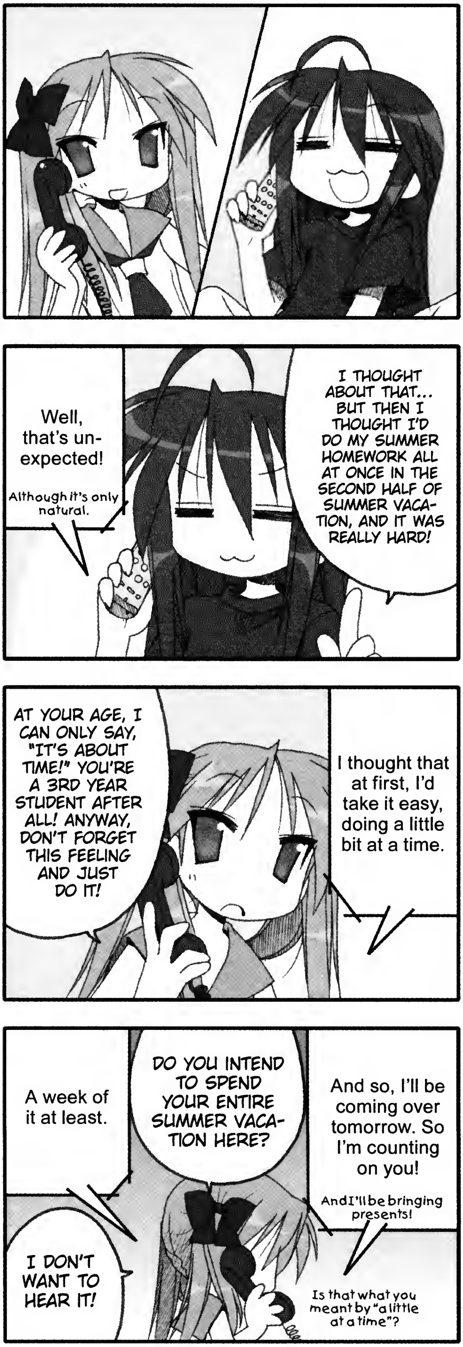
where is the grass greener?


AYA'S HOUSE...
'SUP! IT SURE IS HOT OUT!
'S-up!
I'VE BROUGHT ICE-CREAM FOR EVERYBODY! I COMMAND YOU TO REACH IN AND TAKE WHATEVER LOOKS GOOD! HEH!
I'll be no help with the homework, after all.
ALL RIGHT!!
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, I WONDER...
...WHAT MAKES A PERSON WANT THE THINGS THAT OTHER PEOPLE CHOSE?

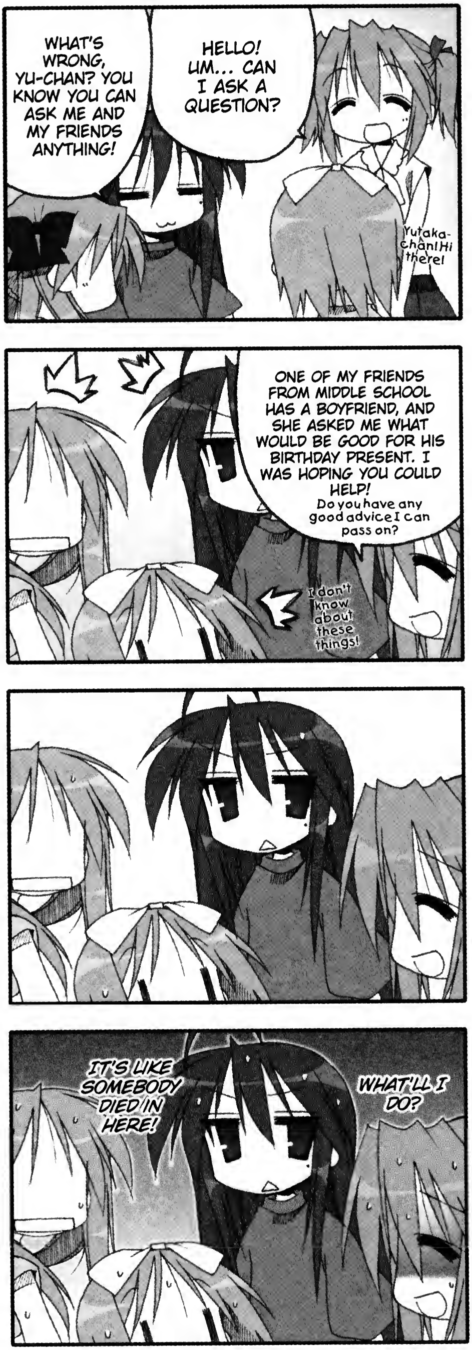
ready to take the leap, but...


I WANT TO REALLY BEAR DOWN AND STUDY, BUT THEN I ALWAYS GET SO SLEEPY!
I WONDER IF THERE'S A WAY TO KEEP THE SLEEPINESS FROM HITTING SO HARD!
I HEAR IT'S BETTER TO TAKE A SHORT NAP THAN TRY TO KEEP YOURSELF AWAKE.
YOU THINK SO TOO? I HEAR THE SAME THING, SO I'VE BEEN DOING THAT...
...BUT SOMEHOW MY "NAP" BECOMES MY "NIGHTLY SLEEP"!
Weak willed...

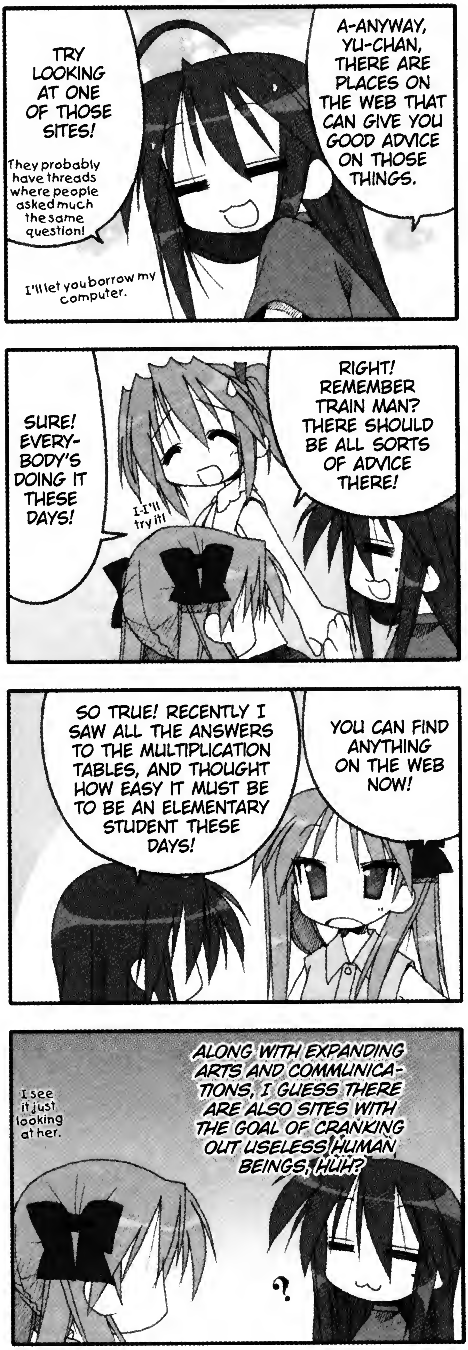
slow and steady

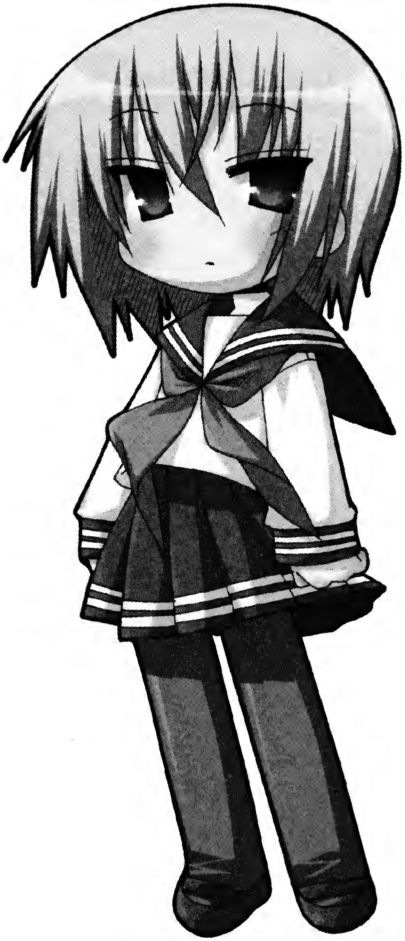

I THOUGHT ABOUT THAT... BUT THEN I THOUGHT I'D DO MY SUMMER HOMEWORK ALL AT ONCE IN THE SECOND HALF OF SUMMER VACATION, AND IT WAS REALLY HARD!
Well, that's unexpected!
Although it's only natural.
I thought that at first, I'd take it easy, doing a little bit at a time.
AT YOUR AGE, I CAN ONLY SAY, "IT'S ABOUT TIME!" YOU'RE A 3RD YEAR STUDENT AFTER ALL! ANYWAY, DON'T FORGET THIS FEELING AND JUST DO IT!
And so, I'll be coming over tomorrow. So I'm counting on you!
And I'll be bringing presents!
DO YOU INTEND TO SPEND YOUR ENTIRE SUMMER VACATION HERE?
A week of it at least.
Is that what you meant by "a little at a time"?
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!

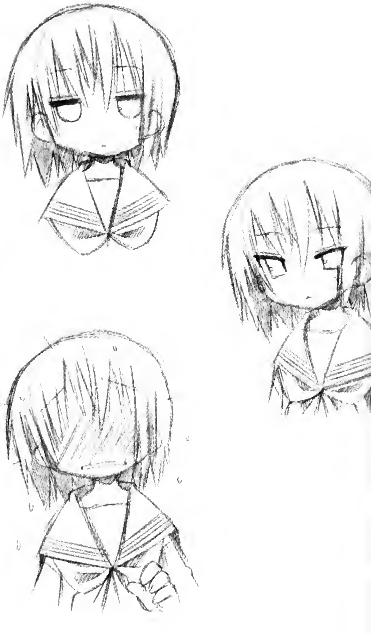
free of advice


HELLO! UM... CAN I ASK A QUESTION?
Yutaka-chan! Hi there!
WHAT'S WRONG, YU-CHAN? YOU KNOW YOU CAN ASK ME AND MY FRIENDS ANYTHING!
ONE OF MY FRIENDS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL HAS A BOYFRIEND, AND SHE ASKED ME WHAT WOULD BE GOOD FOR HIS BIRTHDAY PRESENT. I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP! Do you have any good advice I can pass on?
I don't know about these things!
WHAT'LL I DO?
IT'S LIKE SOMEBODY DIED IN HERE!

inverse proportion


A-ANYWAY, YU-CHAN, THERE ARE PLACES ON THE WEB THAT CAN GIVE YOU GOOD ADVICE ON THOSE THINGS.
TRY LOOKING AT ONE OF THOSE SITES!
They probably have threads where people asked much the same question!
I'll let you borrow my computer.
RIGHT! REMEMBER TRAIN MAN? THERE SHOULD BE ALL SORTS OF ADVICE THERE!
I-I'll try it!
SURE! EVERYBODY'S DOING IT THESE DAYS!
YOU CAN FIND ANYTHING ON THE WEB NOW!
SO TRUE! RECENTLY I SAW ALL THE ANSWERS TO THE MULTIPLICATION TABLES, AND THOUGHT HOW EASY IT MUST BE TO BE AN ELEMENTARY STUDENT THESE DAYS!
ALONG WITH EXPANDING ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS, I GUESS THERE ARE ALSO SITES WITH THE GOAL OF CRANKING OUT USELESS HUMAN BEINGS, HUH?
I see it just looking at her.
?





MINAMI IWASAKI

strong point: athletics
weak point: none worth mentioning

The "silent type," good student.

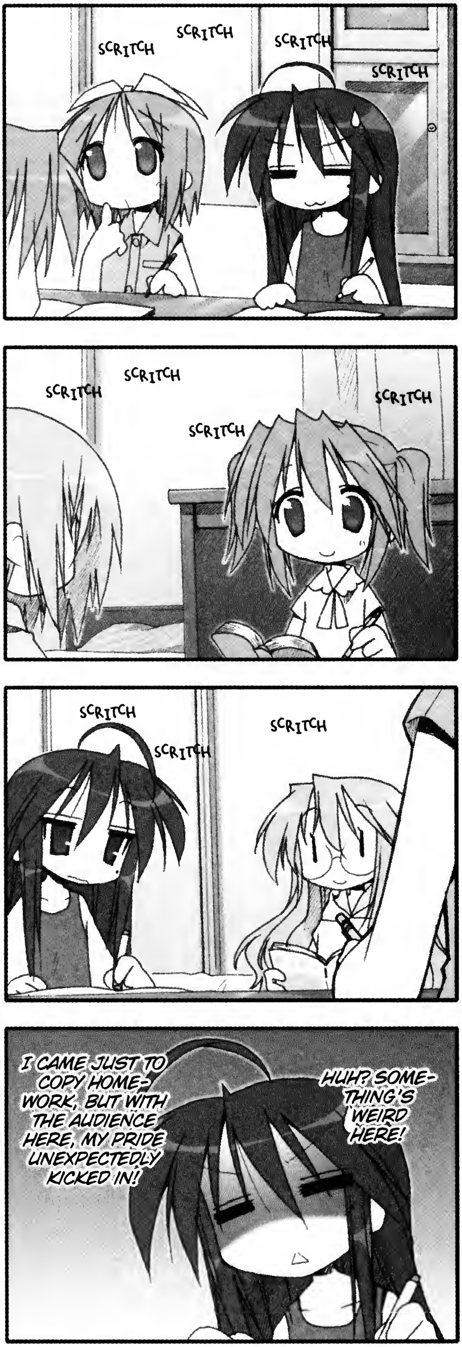
She is so quiet, some people are afraid of her, but she isn't actually scary.

She's observant and knows how to take care of others.

Athletics isn't her only strong suit. She also excels at study, art, and other fields making her an all-around excellent young lady.

Lucky☆Star

episode 66
hang in there, girls


SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
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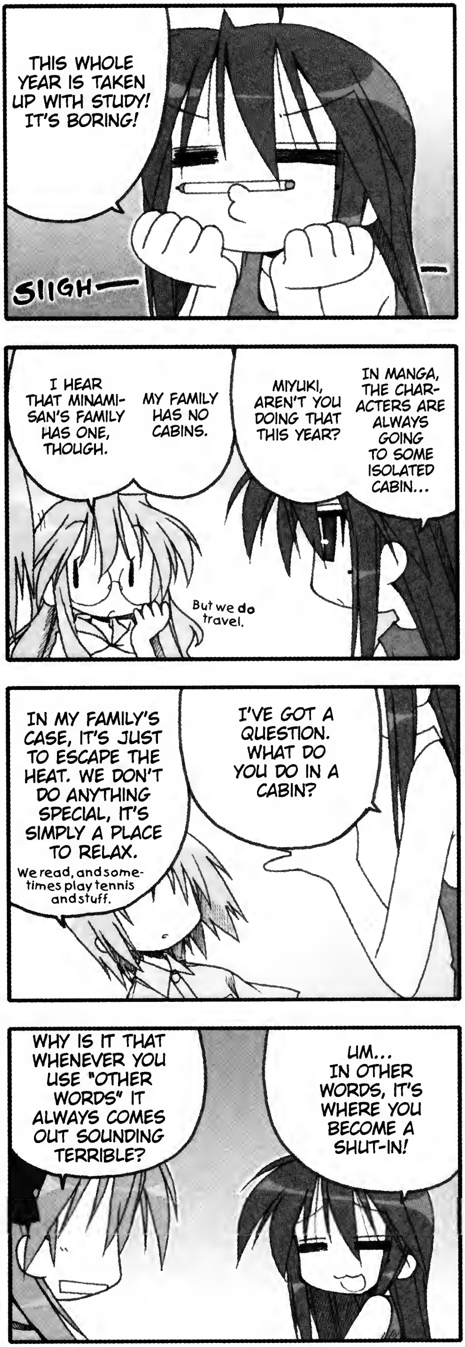
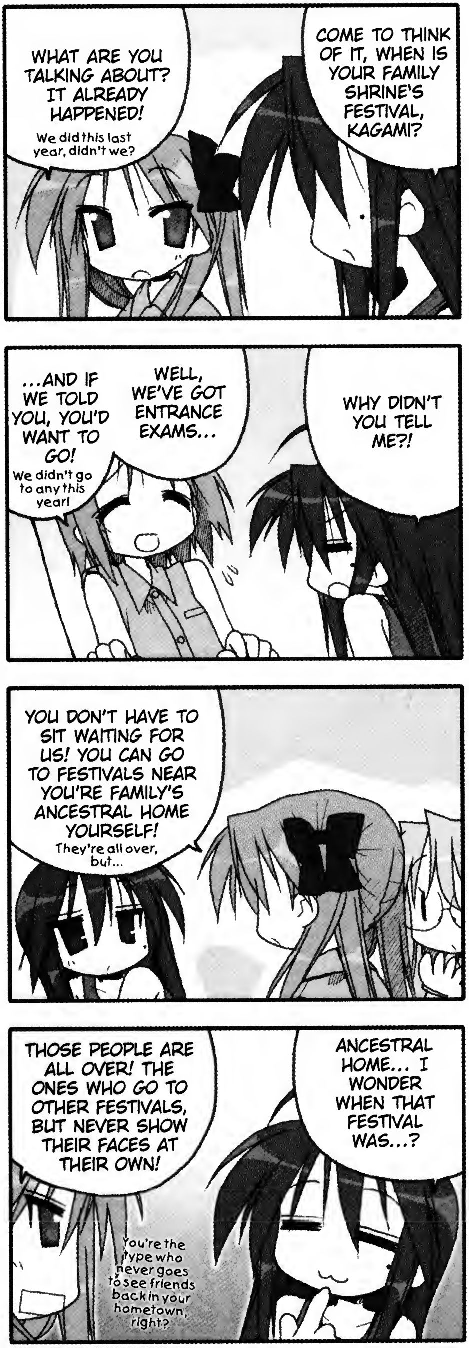
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
HUH? SOMETHING'S WEIRD HERE!
I CAME JUST TO COPY HOMEWORK, BUT WITH THE AUDIENCE HERE, MY PRIDE UNEXPECTEDLY KICKED IN!

● Shonen Ace, December 2005 issue

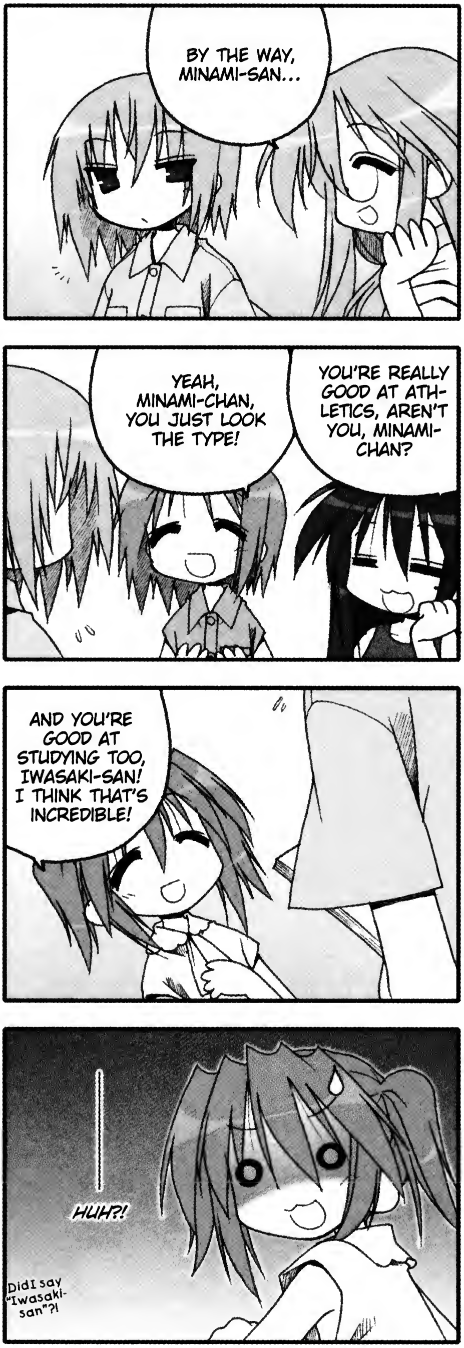
indoors


THIS WHOLE YEAR IS TAKEN UP WITH STUDY! IT'S BORING!
SIIGH—
IN MANGA, THE CHARACTERS ARE ALWAYS GOING TO SOME ISOLATED CABIN...
MIYUKI, AREN'T YOU DOING THAT THIS YEAR?
MY FAMILY HAS NO CABINS.
I HEAR THAT MINAMI-SAN'S FAMILY HAS ONE, THOUGH.
But we do travel.
I'VE GOT A QUESTION. WHAT DO YOU DO IN A CABIN?
IN MY FAMILY'S CASE, IT'S JUST TO ESCAPE THE HEAT. WE DON'T DO ANYTHING SPECIAL, IT'S SIMPLY A PLACE TO RELAX.
We read, and sometimes play tennis and stuff.
UM... IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S WHERE YOU BECOME A SHUT-IN!
WHY IS IT THAT WHENEVER YOU USE "OTHER WORDS" IT ALWAYS COMES OUT SOUNDING TERRIBLE?

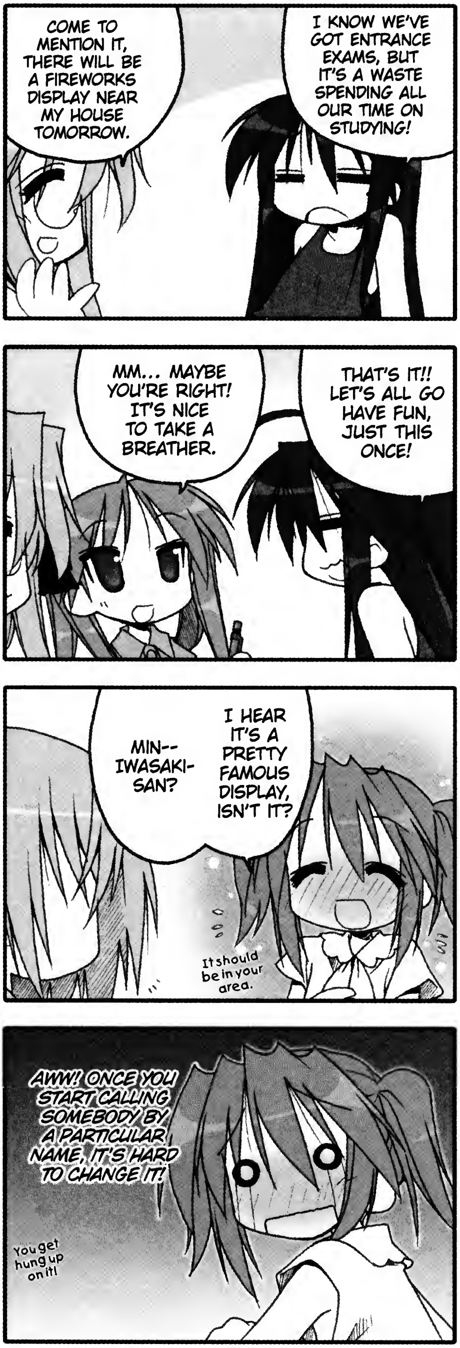
light house


COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN IS YOUR FAMILY SHRINE'S FESTIVAL, KAGAMI?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT ALREADY HAPPENED!
We did this last year, didn't we?
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?!
WELL, WE'VE GOT ENTRANCE EXAMS...
...AND IF WE TOLD YOU, YOU'D WANT TO GO!
We didn't go to any this year!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SIT WAITING FOR US! YOU CAN GO TO FESTIVALS NEAR YOU'RE FAMILY'S ANCESTRAL HOME YOURSELF!
They're all over, but...
ANCESTRAL HOME... I WONDER WHEN THAT FESTIVAL WAS...?
THOSE PEOPLE ARE ALL OVER! THE ONES WHO GO TO OTHER FESTIVALS, BUT NEVER SHOW THEIR FACES AT THEIR OWN!
You're the type who never goes to see friends back in your hometown, right?

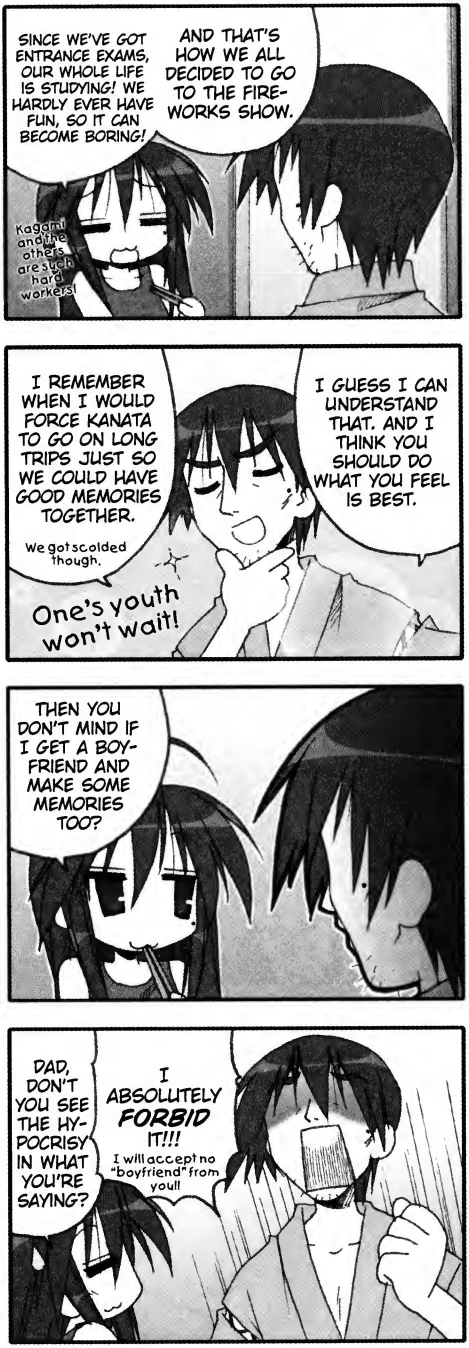
yes, they're best friends


BY THE WAY, MINAMI-SAN...
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT ATHLETICS, AREN'T YOU, MINAMI-CHAN?
YEAH, MINAMI-CHAN, YOU JUST LOOK THE TYPE!
AND YOU'RE GOOD AT STUDYING TOO, IWASAKI-SAN! I THINK THAT'S INCREDIBLE!
—HUH?!
Did I say "Iwasaki-san"?!

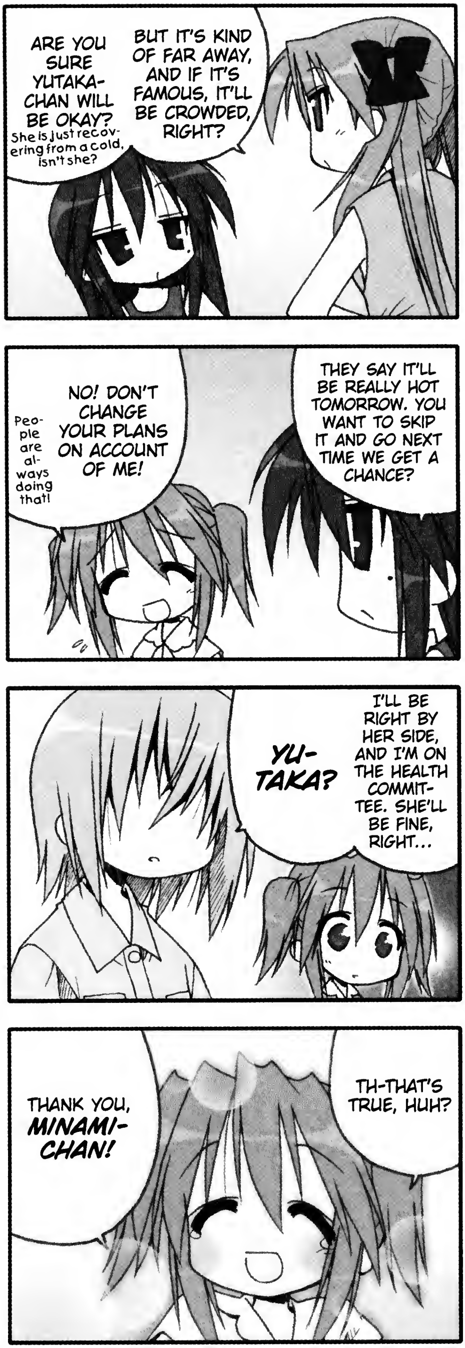
attack

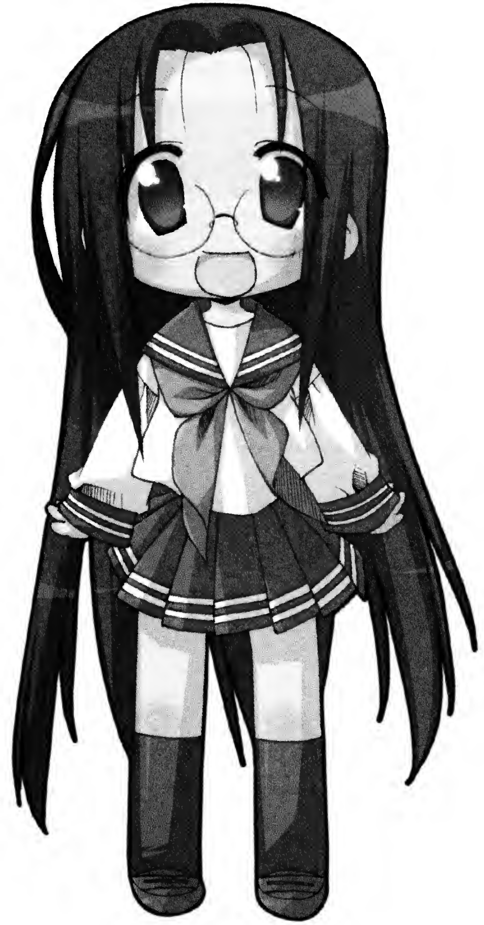

I KNOW WE'VE GOT ENTRANCE EXAMS, BUT IT'S A WASTE SPENDING ALL OUR TIME ON STUDYING!
COME TO MENTION IT, THERE WILL BE A FIREWORKS DISPLAY NEAR MY HOUSE TOMORROW.
THAT'S IT!! LET'S ALL GO HAVE FUN, JUST THIS ONCE!
MM... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S NICE TO TAKE A BREATHER.
I HEAR IT'S A PRETTY FAMOUS DISPLAY, ISN'T IT?
MIN-- IWASAKI-SAN?
It should be in your area.
AWW! ONCE YOU START CALLING SOMEBODY BY A PARTICULAR NAME, IT'S HARD TO CHANGE IT!
You get hung up on it!

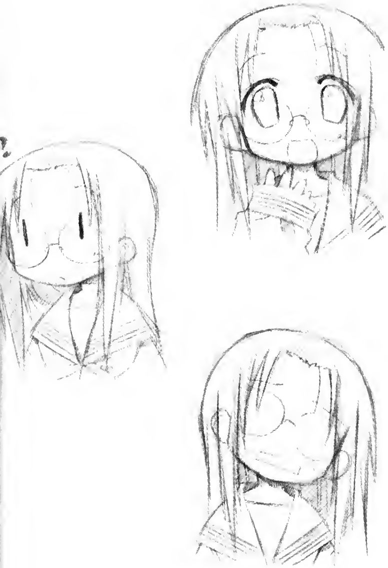
a wide narrow


SINCE WE'VE GOT ENTRANCE EXAMS, OUR WHOLE LIFE IS STUDYING! WE HARDLY EVER HAVE FUN, SO IT CAN BECOME BORING!
AND THAT'S HOW WE ALL DECIDED TO GO TO THE FIREWORKS SHOW.
Kagami and the others are such hard workers!
I REMEMBER WHEN I WOULD FORCE KANATA TO GO ON LONG TRIPS JUST SO WE COULD HAVE GOOD MEMORIES TOGETHER.
We got scolded though.
I GUESS I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT. AND I THINK YOU SHOULD DO WHAT YOU FEEL IS BEST.
One's youth won't wait!
THEN YOU DON'T MIND IF I GET A BOYFRIEND AND MAKE SOME MEMORIES TOO?
DAD, DON'T YOU SEE THE HYPOCRISY IN WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?
I ABSOLUTELY FORBID IT!!!
I will accept no "boyfriend" from you!!

taking it in hand


ARE YOU SURE YUTAKA-CHAN WILL BE OKAY?
She is just recovering from a cold, isn't she?
BUT IT'S KIND OF FAR AWAY, AND IF IT'S FAMOUS, IT'LL BE CROWDED, RIGHT?
THEY SAY IT'LL BE REALLY HOT TOMORROW. YOU WANT TO SKIP IT AND GO NEXT TIME WE GET A CHANCE?
NO! DON'T CHANGE YOUR PLANS ON ACCOUNT OF ME!
People are always doing that!
YUTAKA?
I'LL BE RIGHT BY HER SIDE, AND I'M ON THE HEALTH COMMITTEE. SHE'LL BE FINE, RIGHT...
TH-THAT'S TRUE, HUH?
THANK YOU, MINAMI-CHAN!





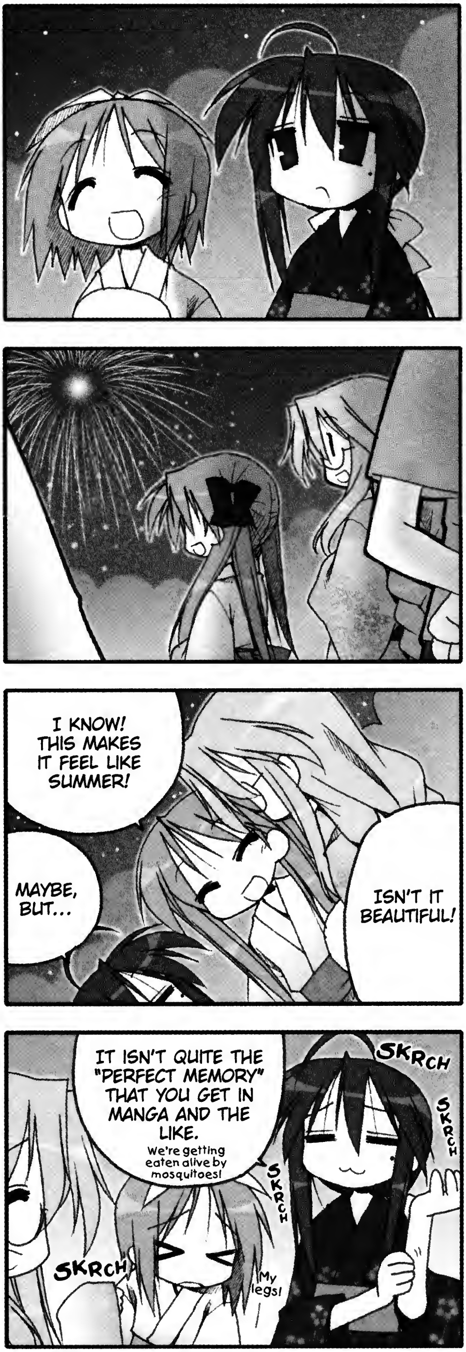
HIYORI TAMURA

strong point: art
weak point: english
An active creator-type otaku girl.
Has a bright personality, but she gets nervous, and that's her biggest failing.
She falls into a day-dream world at the slightest chance. One would call her a dreamer princess.
She's a classmate of Yutaka and Minami.

Lucky☆Star

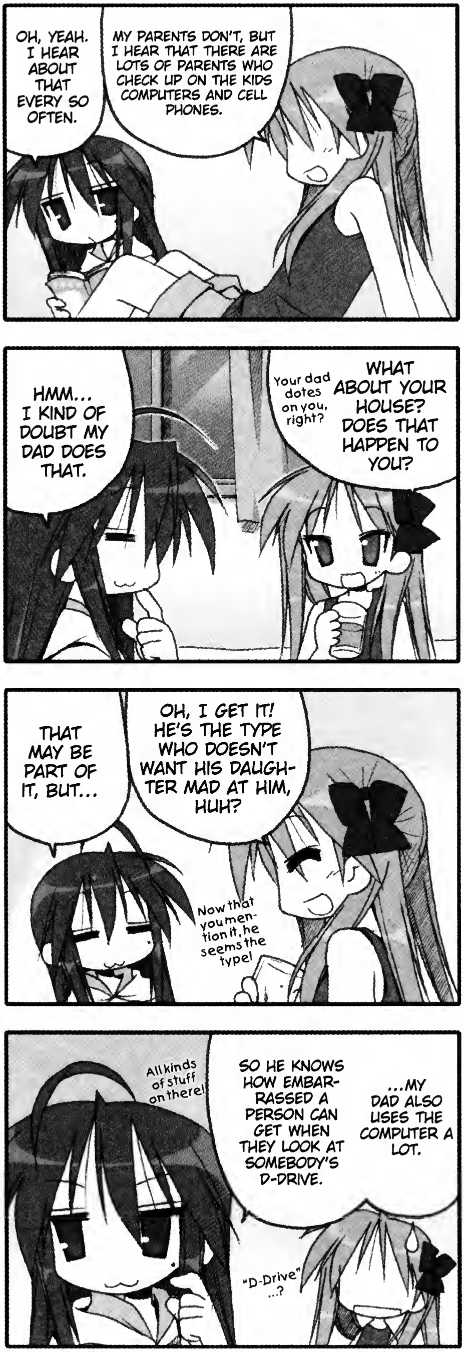
episode 67
brilliant colors

at your feet

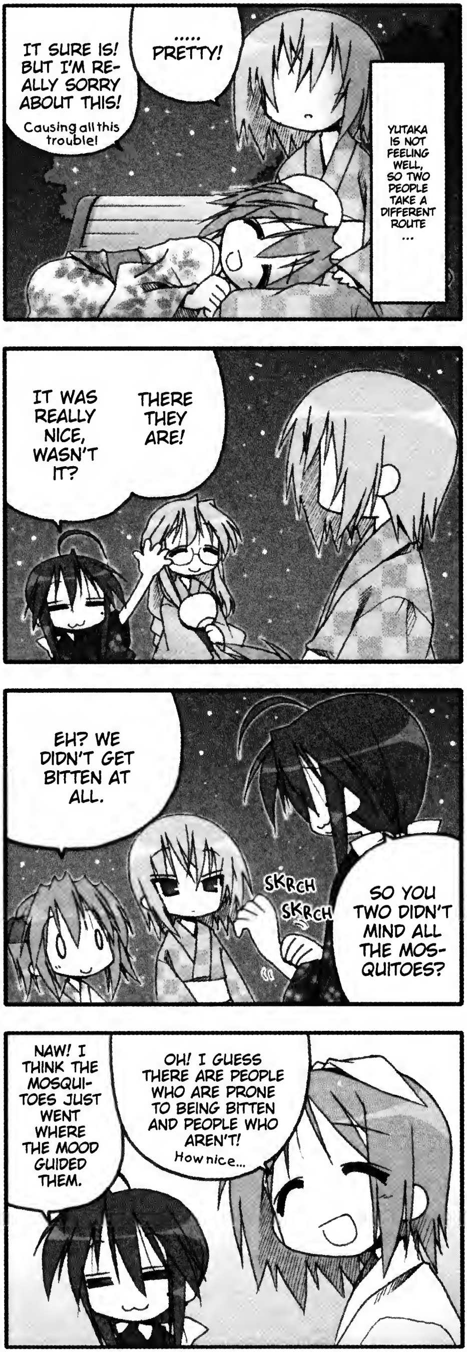

ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL!
I KNOW! THIS MAKES IT FEEL LIKE SUMMER!
MAYBE, BUT...
SKRCH
SKRCH
IT ISN'T QUITE THE "PERFECT MEMORY" THAT YOU GET IN MANGA AND THE LIKE.
we're getting eaten alive by mosquitoes!
SKRCH
My legs!
SKRCH

● Comptiq, December 2005 issue

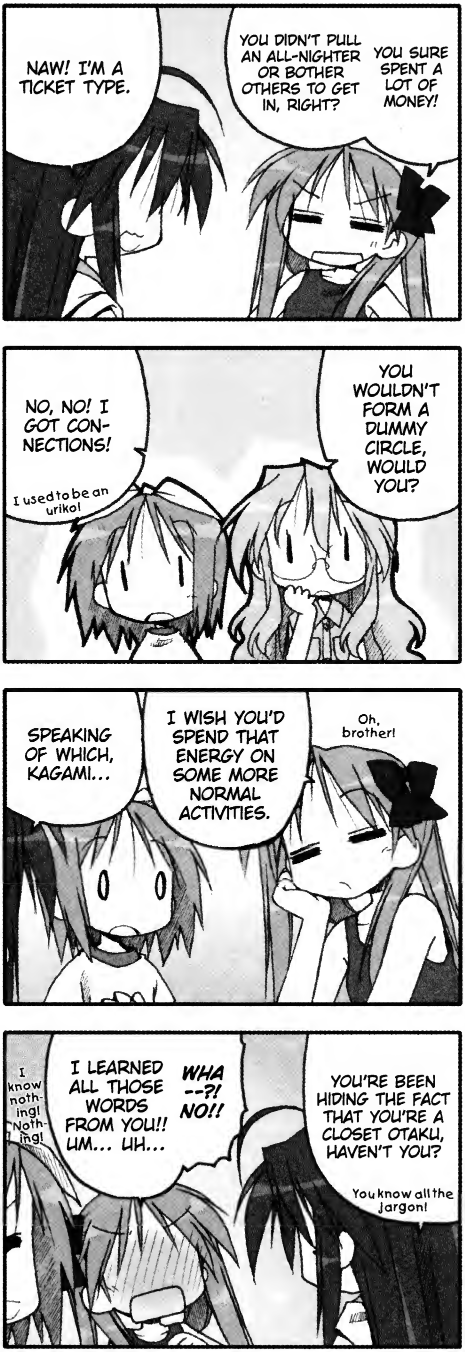
toy box


MY PARENTS DON'T, BUT I HEAR THAT THERE ARE LOTS OF PARENTS WHO CHECK UP ON THE KIDS COMPUTERS AND CELL PHONES.
OH, YEAH. I HEAR ABOUT THAT EVERY SO OFTEN.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR HOUSE? DOES THAT HAPPEN TO YOU?
Your dad dotes on you, right?
HMM... I KIND OF DOUBT MY DAD DOES THAT.
OH, I GET IT! HE'S THE TYPE WHO DOESN'T WANT HIS DAUGHTER MAD AT HIM, HUH?
Now that you mention it, he seems the type!
THAT MAY BE PART OF IT, BUT...
...MY DAD ALSO USES THE COMPUTER A LOT.
SO HE KNOWS HOW EMBARRASSED A PERSON CAN GET WHEN THEY LOOK AT SOMEBODY'S D-DRIVE.
All kinds of stuff on there!
"D-Drive" ...?

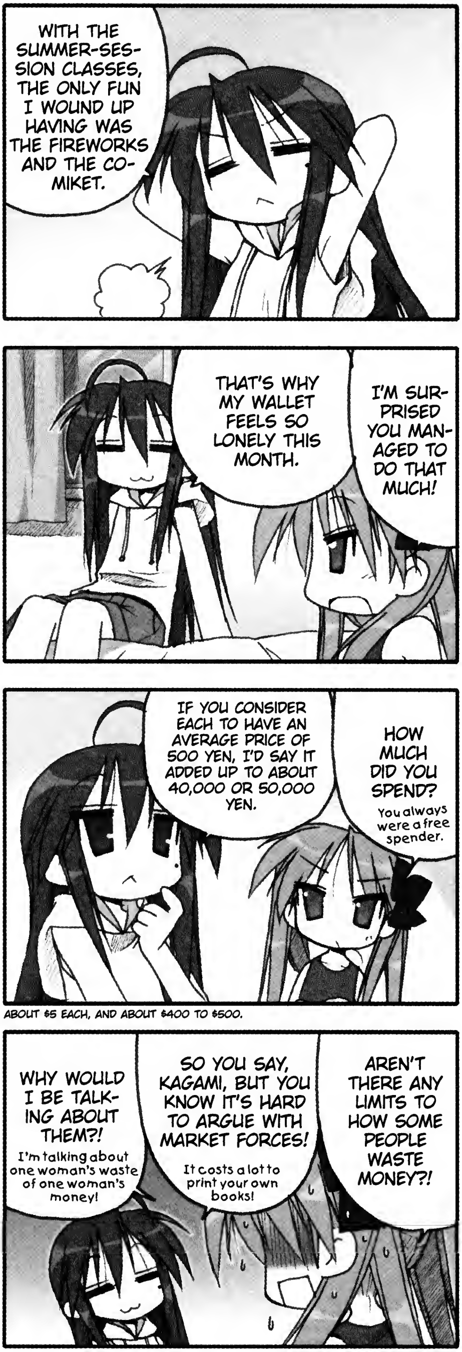
a different atmosphere


YUTAKA IS NOT FEELING WELL, SO TWO PEOPLE TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE ...
..... PRETTY!
IT SURE IS! BUT I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS!
Causing all this trouble!
THERE THEY ARE!
IT WAS REALLY NICE, WASN'T IT?
SO YOU TWO DIDN'T MIND ALL THE MOSQUITOES?
SKRCH
SKRCH
EH? WE DIDN'T GET BITTEN AT ALL.
OH! I GUESS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE PRONE TO BEING BITTEN AND PEOPLE WHO AREN'T!
How nice...
NAW! I THINK THE MOSQUITOES JUST WENT WHERE THE MOOD GUIDED THEM.

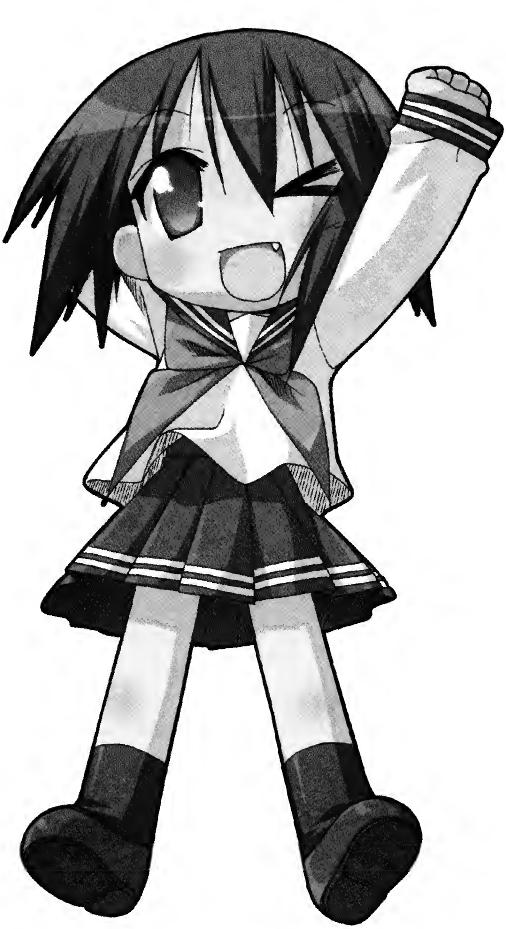
dyed in vermilion

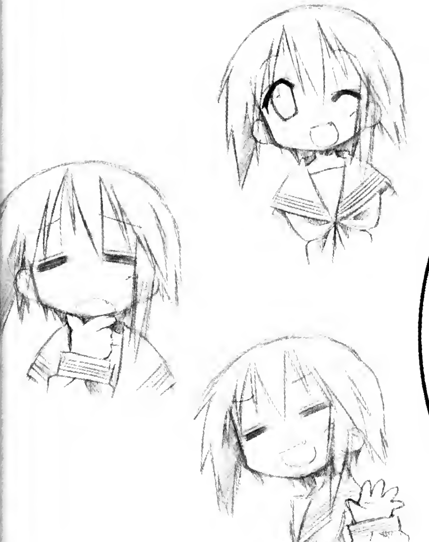

YOU SURE SPENT A LOT OF MONEY!
YOU DIDN'T PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER OR BOTHER OTHERS TO GET IN, RIGHT?
NAW! I'M A TICKET TYPE.
YOU WOULDN'T FORM A DUMMY CIRCLE, WOULD YOU?
NO, NO! I GOT CONNECTIONS!
I used to be an uriko!
Oh, brother!
I WISH YOU'D SPEND THAT ENERGY ON SOME MORE NORMAL ACTIVITIES.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, KAGAMI...
YOU'RE BEEN HIDING THE FACT THAT YOU'RE A CLOSET OTAKU, HAVEN'T YOU?
You know all the jargon!
WHA--?! NO!!
I LEARNED ALL THOSE WORDS FROM YOU!! UM... UH...
I know nothing! Nothing!

limit break


WITH THE SUMMER-SESSION CLASSES, THE ONLY FUN I WOUND UP HAVING WAS THE FIREWORKS AND THE COMIKET.
I'M SURPRISED YOU MANAGED TO DO THAT MUCH!
THAT'S WHY MY WALLET FEELS SO LONELY THIS MONTH.
HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND?
You always were a free spender.
IF YOU CONSIDER EACH TO HAVE AN AVERAGE PRICE OF 500 YEN, I'D SAY IT ADDED UP TO ABOUT 40,000 OR 50,000 YEN.
AREN'T THERE ANY LIMITS TO HOW SOME PEOPLE WASTE MONEY?!
SO YOU SAY, KAGAMI, BUT YOU KNOW IT'S HARD TO ARGUE WITH MARKET FORCES!
It costs a lot to print your own books!
WHY WOULD I BE TALKING ABOUT THEM?!
I'm talking about one woman's waste of one woman's money!

ABOUT $5 EACH, AND ABOUT $400 TO $500.





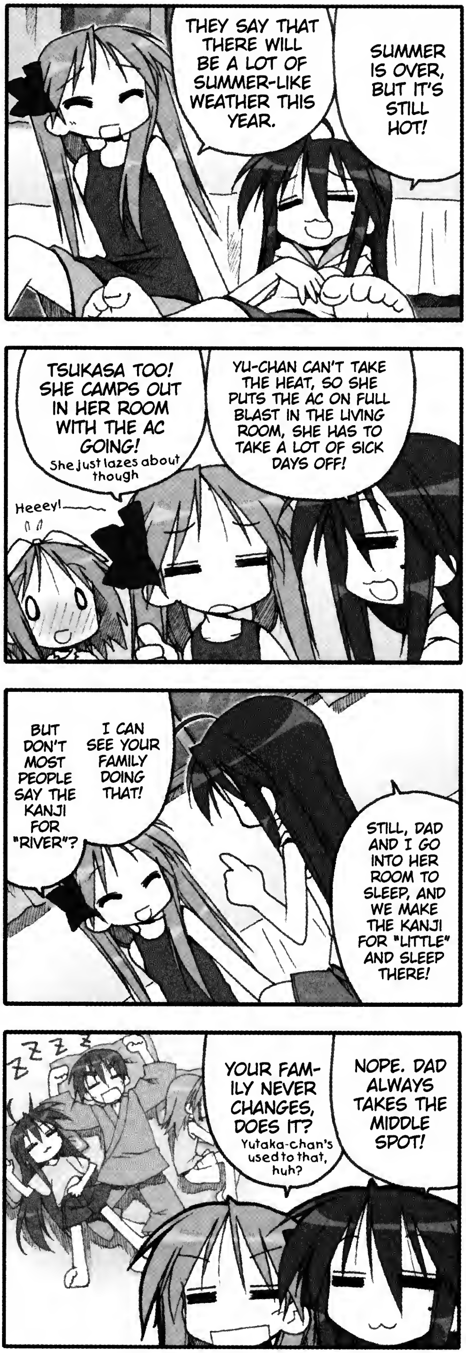
MISAO KUSAKABE

strong point: athletics
weak point: world history, math
A bright, uncomplicated, energetic girl.
Does only enough to get by, and doesn't sweat the details.
She's optimistic and finds fun in just about anything, but she hates to study.
She's Kagami's classmate.

my house

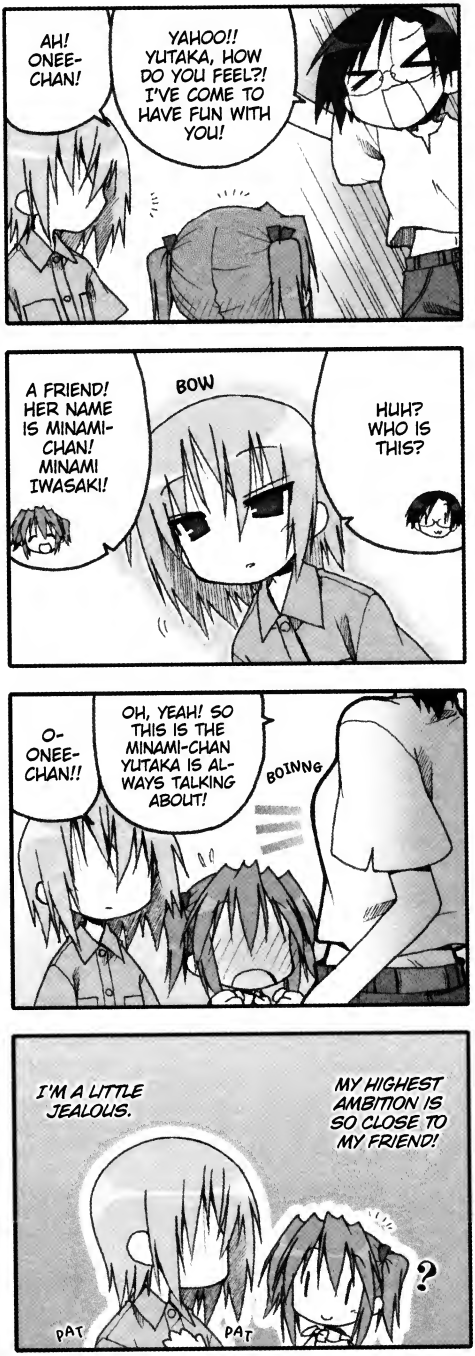
Lucky☆Star

episode 68
the siblings equation

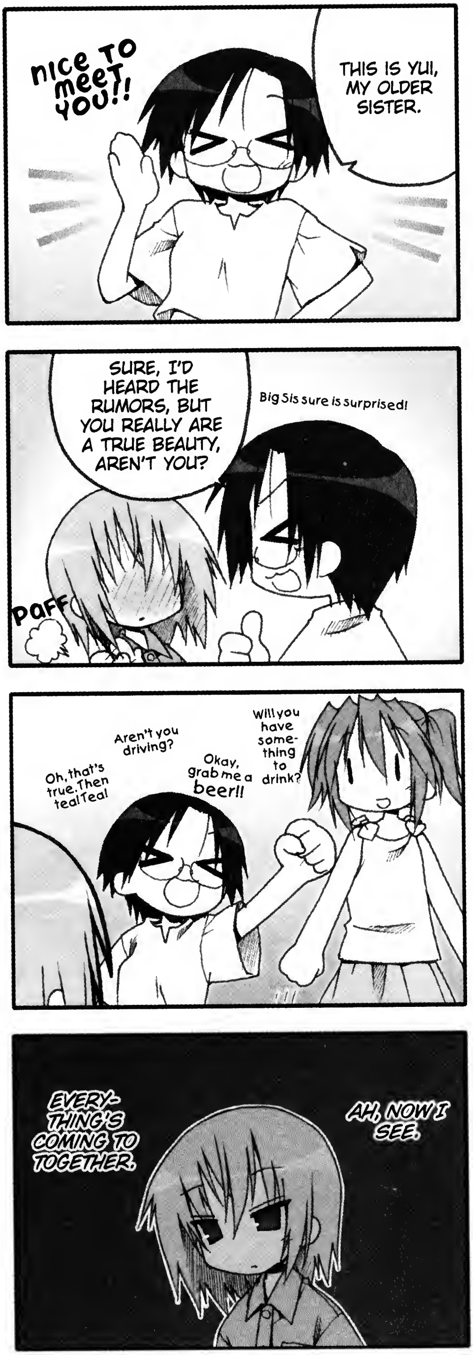

SUMMER IS OVER, BUT IT'S STILL HOT!
THEY SAY THAT THERE WILL BE A LOT OF SUMMER-LIKE WEATHER THIS YEAR.
YU-CHAN CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT, SO SHE PUTS THE AC ON FULL BLAST IN THE LIVING ROOM, SHE HAS TO TAKE A LOT OF SICK DAYS OFF!
TSUKASA TOO! SHE CAMPS OUT IN HER ROOM WITH THE AC GOING! She just lazes about though
Heeey!
STILL, DAD AND I GO INTO HER ROOM TO SLEEP, AND WE MAKE THE KANJI FOR "LITTLE" AND SLEEP THERE!
I CAN SEE YOUR FAMILY DOING THAT!
BUT DON'T MOST PEOPLE SAY THE KANJI FOR "RIVER"?
NOPE. DAD ALWAYS TAKES THE MIDDLE SPOT!
YOUR FAMILY NEVER CHANGES, DOES IT? Yutaka-chan's used to that, huh?
Z Z Z Z

● Comptiq, December 2005 issue

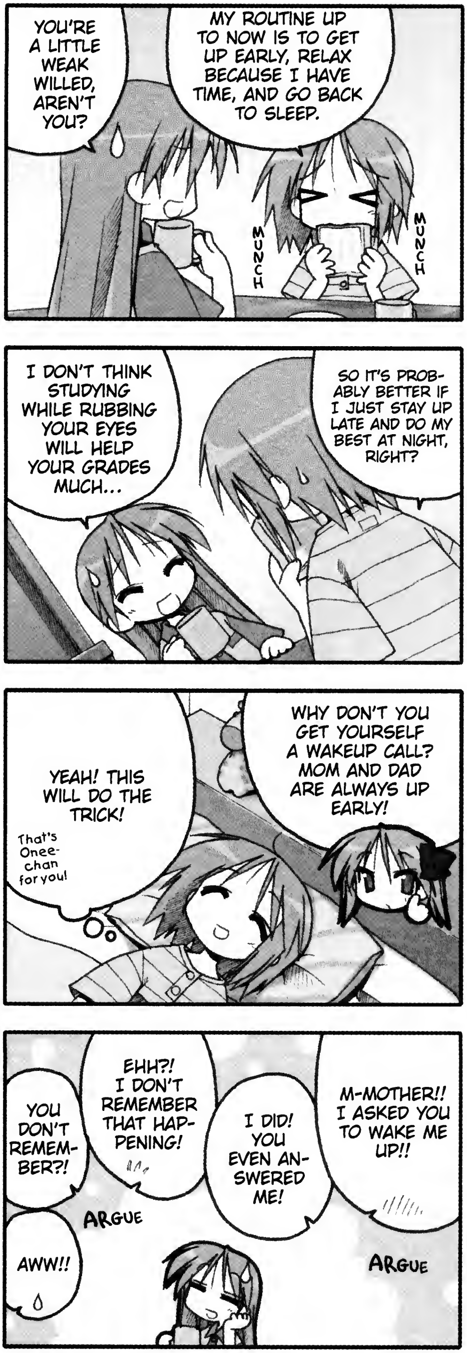
pandora's box


YAHOO!! YUTAKA, HOW DO YOU FEEL?! I'VE COME TO HAVE FUN WITH YOU!
AH! ONEE-CHAN!
HUH? WHO IS THIS?
BOW
A FRIEND! HER NAME IS MINAMI-CHAN! MINAMI IWASAKI!
BOINNG
OH, YEAH! SO THIS IS THE MINAMI-CHAN YUTAKA IS ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT!
O-ONEE-CHAN!!
MY HIGHEST AMBITION IS SO CLOSE TO MY FRIEND!
I'M A LITTLE JEALOUS.
PAT
PAT
?

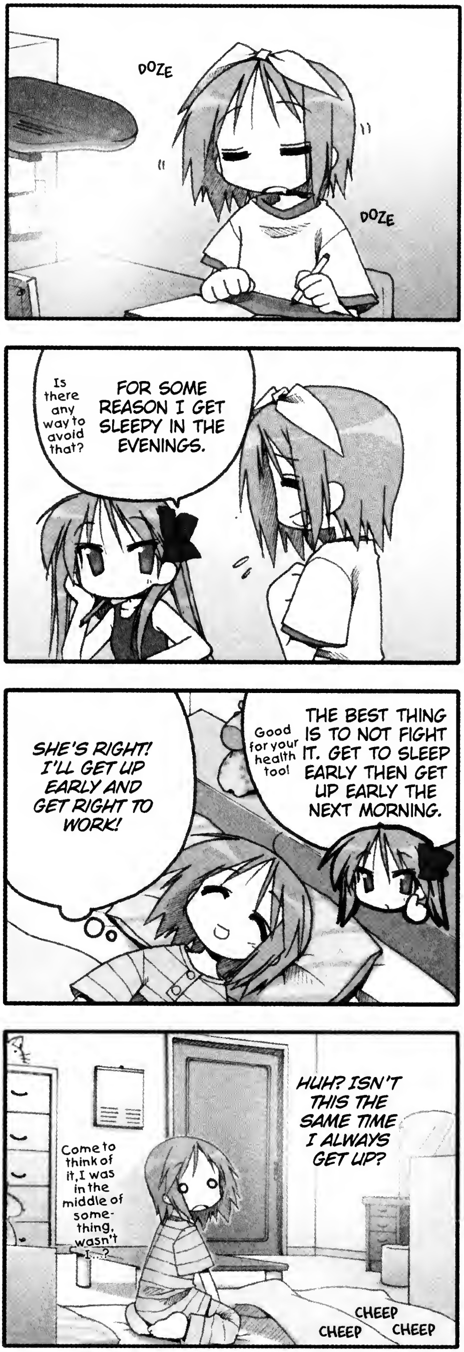
konata's story once again

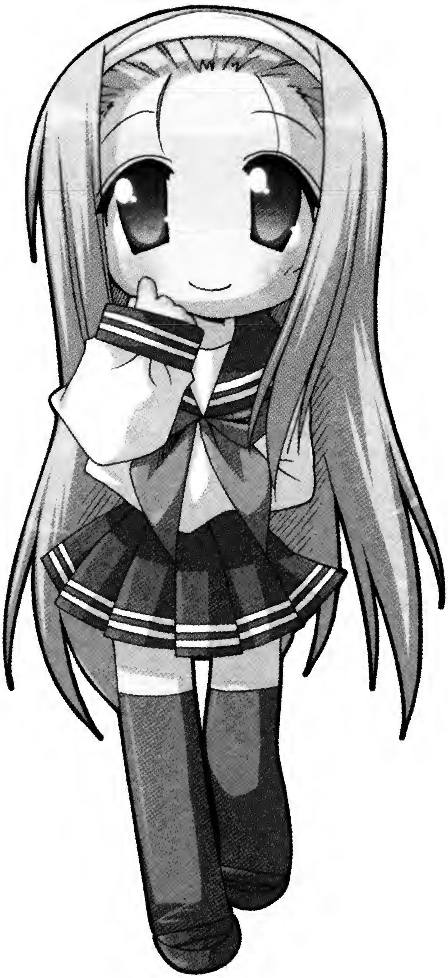

THIS IS YUI, MY OLDER SISTER.
nice to meet you!!
Big Sis sure is surprised!
SURE, I'D HEARD THE RUMORS, BUT YOU REALLY ARE A TRUE BEAUTY, AREN'T YOU?
PAFF
Will you have something to drink?
Okay, grab me a beer!!
Aren't you driving?
Oh, that's true. Then tea! Tea!
AH, NOW I SEE.
EVERYTHING'S COMING TO TOGETHER.

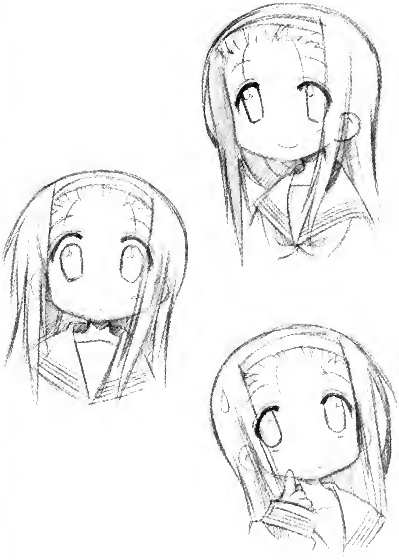
she doesn't seem dead


MY ROUTINE UP TO NOW IS TO GET UP EARLY, RELAX BECAUSE I HAVE TIME, AND GO BACK TO SLEEP.
YOU'RE A LITTLE WEAK WILLED, AREN'T YOU?
MUNCH
MUNCH
SO IT'S PROBABLY BETTER IF I JUST STAY UP LATE AND DO MY BEST AT NIGHT, RIGHT?
I DON'T THINK STUDYING WHILE RUBBING YOUR EYES WILL HELP YOUR GRADES MUCH...
WHY DON'T YOU GET YOURSELF A WAKEUP CALL? MOM AND DAD ARE ALWAYS UP EARLY!
YEAH! THIS WILL DO THE TRICK!
That's Onee-chan for you!
M-MOTHER!! I ASKED YOU TO WAKE ME UP!!
I DID! YOU EVEN ANSWERED ME!
EHH?! I DON'T REMEMBER THAT HAPPENING!
YOU DON'T REMEMBER?!
ARGUE
ARGUE
AWW!!

rhythm


DOZE
DOZE
FOR SOME REASON I GET SLEEPY IN THE EVENINGS.
Is there any way to avoid that?
THE BEST THING IS TO NOT FIGHT IT. GET TO SLEEP EARLY THEN GET UP EARLY THE NEXT MORNING.
Good for your health too!
SHE'S RIGHT! I'LL GET UP EARLY AND GET RIGHT TO WORK!
HUH? ISN'T THIS THE SAME TIME I ALWAYS GET UP?
Come to think of it, I was in the middle of something, wasn't I...?
CHEEP
CHEEP
CHEEP





AYANO MINEGISHI

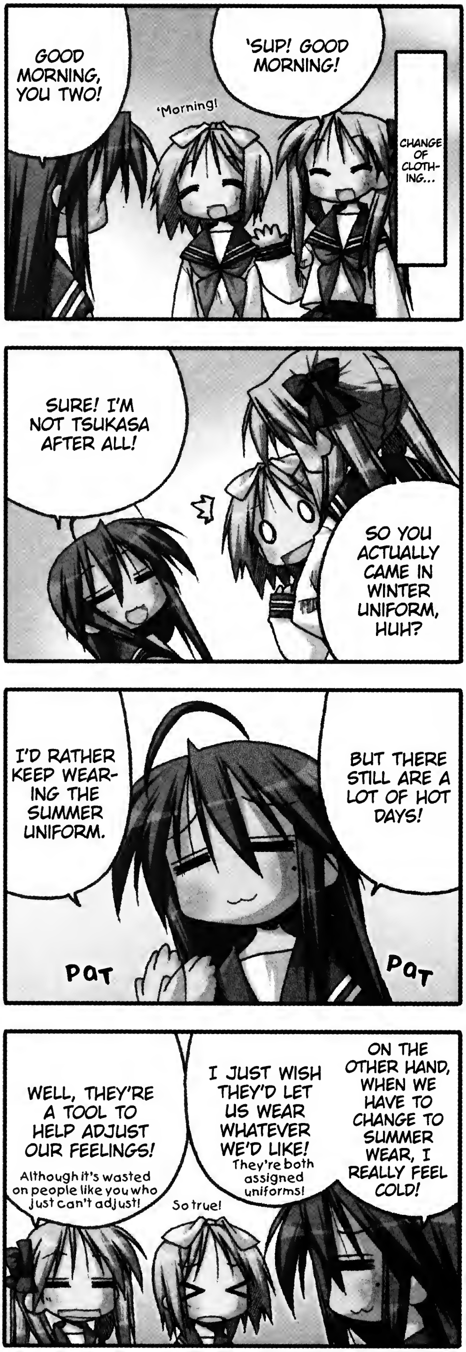
strong point:japanese class
weak point:math
A partner in Misao's universe.
She's always standing behind Misao supporting her.
She can always be found with Misao, so there's
no hint of men in her life. Or so one would think,
but they'd be wrong.
A classmate of Kagami's.

Lucky☆Star

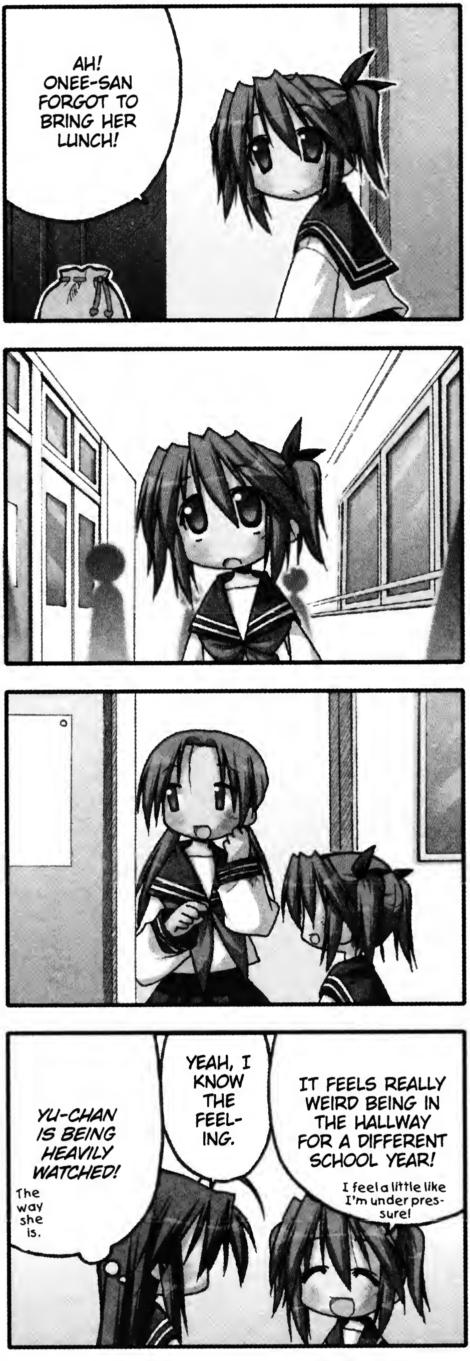
episode 69
small accomplishments.

● Comptiq, January 2006 issue

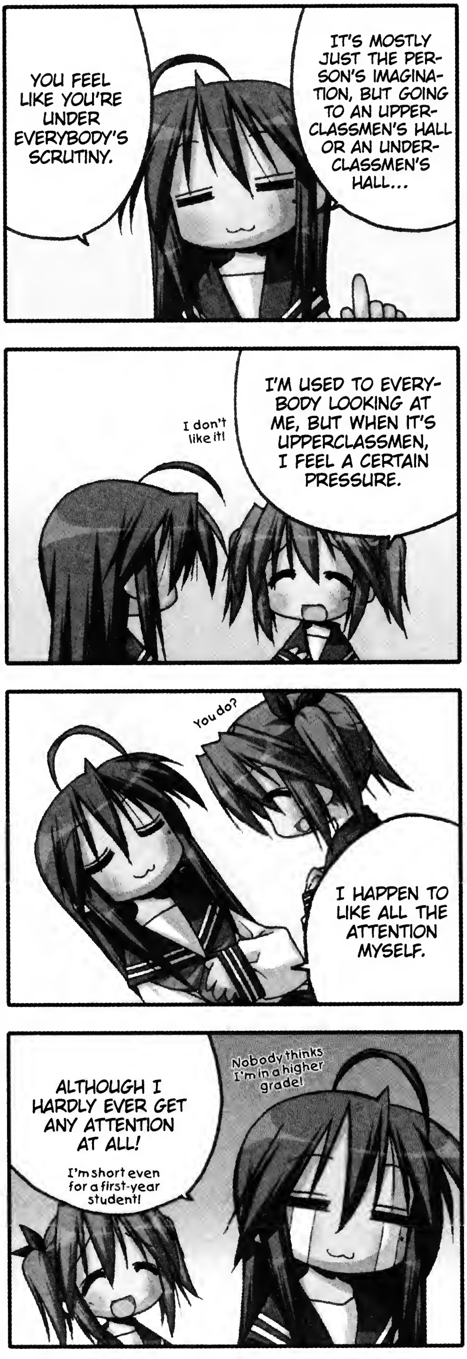
adjust


CHANGE OF CLOTHING...
'SUP! GOOD MORNING!
'Morning!
GOOD MORNING, YOU TWO!
SO YOU ACTUALLY CAME IN WINTER UNIFORM, HUH?
SURE! I'M NOT TSUKASA AFTER ALL!
BUT THERE STILL ARE A LOT OF HOT DAYS!
I'D RATHER KEEP WEARING THE SUMMER UNIFORM.
Pat
Pat
ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN WE HAVE TO CHANGE TO SUMMER WEAR, I REALLY FEEL COLD!
I JUST WISH THEY'D LET US WEAR WHATEVER WE'D LIKE!
They're both assigned uniforms!
So true!
WELL, THEY'RE A TOOL TO HELP ADJUST OUR FEELINGS!
Although it's wasted on people like you who just can't adjust!

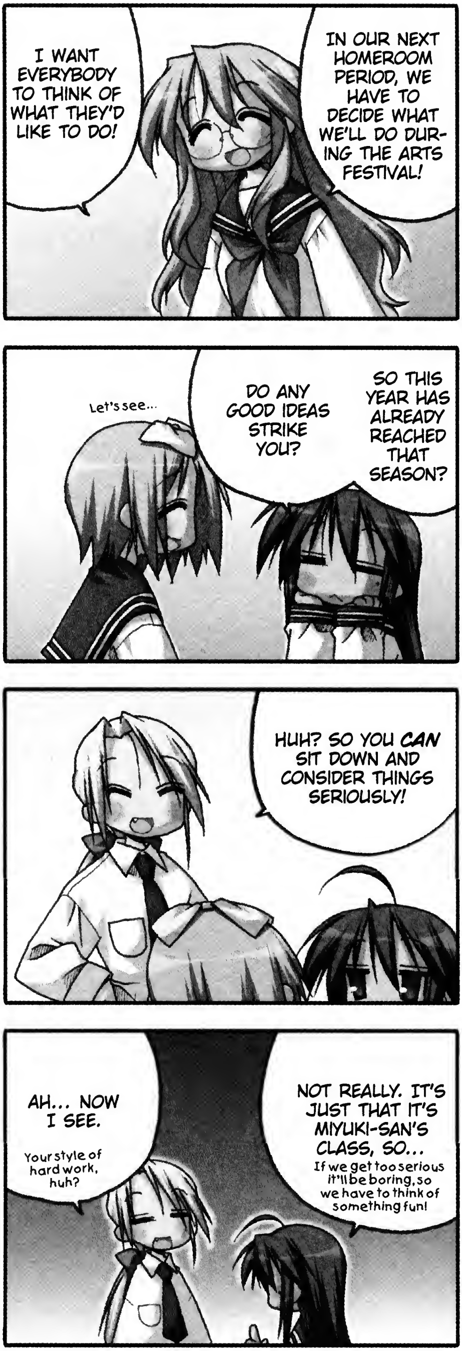
strange feeling


AH! ONEE-SAN FORGOT TO BRING HER LUNCH!
IT FEELS REALLY WEIRD BEING IN THE HALLWAY FOR A DIFFERENT SCHOOL YEAR!
I feel a little like I'm under pressure!
YEAH, I KNOW THE FEELING.
YU-CHAN IS BEING HEAVILY WATCHED!
The way she is.

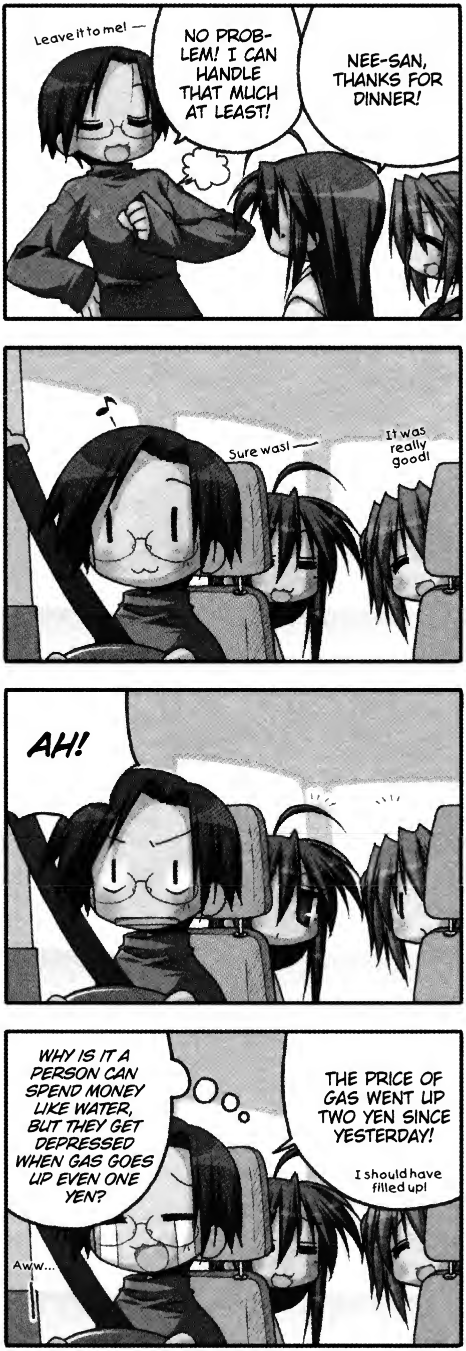
used to it

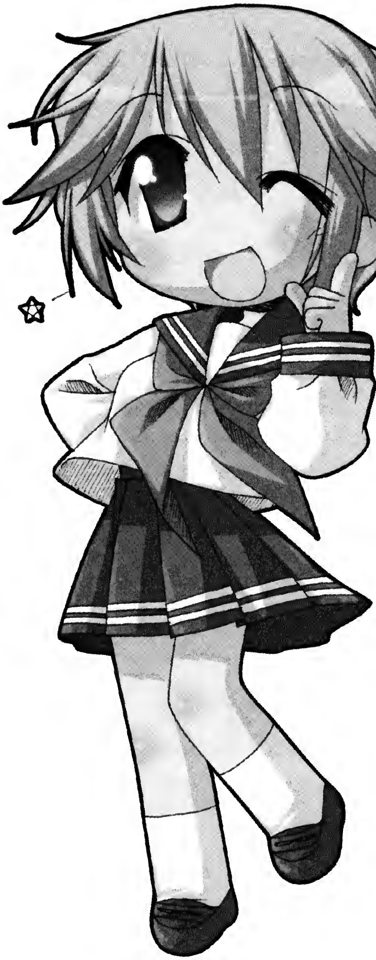

IT'S MOSTLY JUST THE PERSON'S IMAGINATION, BUT GOING TO AN UPPERCLASSMEN'S HALL OR AN UNDERCLASSMEN'S HALL...
YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE UNDER EVERYBODY'S SCRUTINY.
I'M USED TO EVERYBODY LOOKING AT ME, BUT WHEN IT'S UPPERCLASSMEN, I FEEL A CERTAIN PRESSURE.
I don't like it!
You do?
I HAPPEN TO LIKE ALL THE ATTENTION MYSELF.
Nobody thinks I'm in a higher grade!
ALTHOUGH I HARDLY EVER GET ANY ATTENTION AT ALL!
I'm short even for a first-year student!

standard procedure


IN OUR NEXT HOMEROOM PERIOD, WE HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT WE'LL DO DURING THE ARTS FESTIVAL!
I WANT EVERYBODY TO THINK OF WHAT THEY'D LIKE TO DO!
SO THIS YEAR HAS ALREADY REACHED THAT SEASON?
DO ANY GOOD IDEAS STRIKE YOU?
Let's see...
HUH? SO YOU *CAN* SIT DOWN AND CONSIDER THINGS SERIOUSLY!
NOT REALLY. IT'S JUST THAT IT'S MIYUKI-SAN'S CLASS, SO... If we get too serious it'll be boring, so we have to think of something fun!
AH... NOW I SEE. Your style of hard work, huh?

A matter of feelings


NEE-SAN, THANKS FOR DINNER!
NO PROBLEM! I CAN HANDLE THAT MUCH AT LEAST!
Leave it to me! —
It was really good!
Sure was! —
AH!
THE PRICE OF GAS WENT UP TWO YEN SINCE YESTERDAY! I should have filled up!
WHY IS IT A PERSON CAN SPEND MONEY LIKE WATER, BUT THEY GET DEPRESSED WHEN GAS GOES UP EVEN ONE YEN?
Aww...



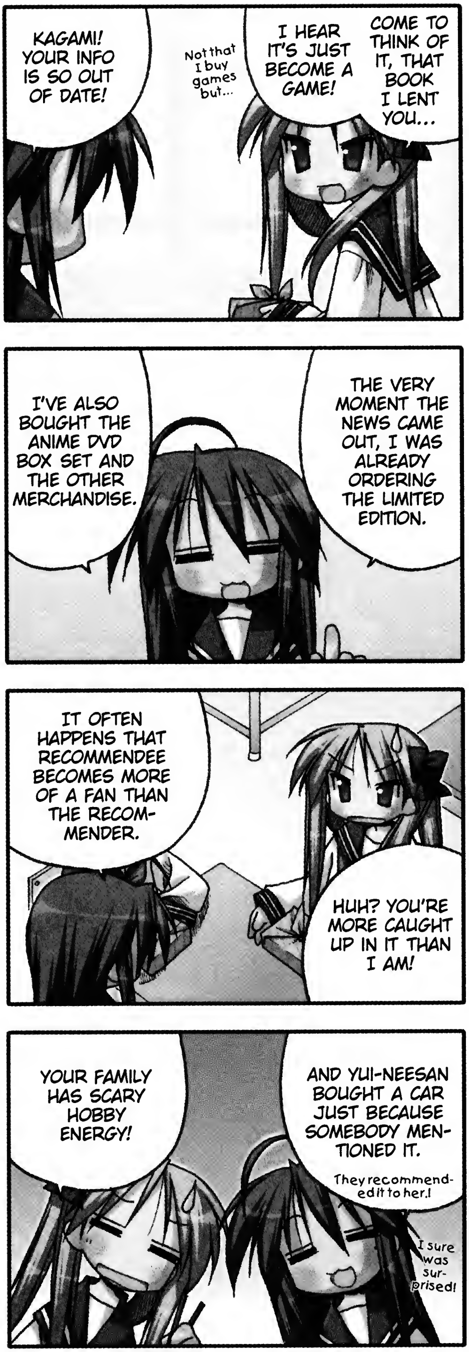
PATRICIA MARTIN

strong point: english
weak point: japanese class
An otaku from overseas that came as a part of a student exchange.
Although her Japanese is very good, she only knows otaku Japanese, so she give off a slightly strange aura.
She is Yutaka and Minami's classmate

Lucky☆Star

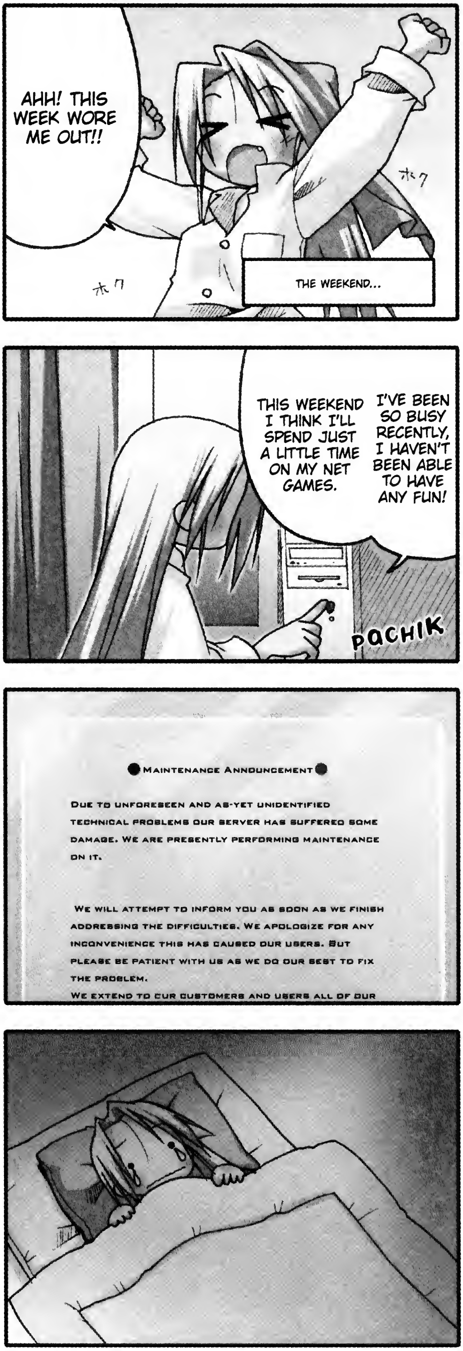
episode 70
firing up the brain cells

trap


COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT BOOK I LENT YOU...
I HEAR IT'S JUST BECOME A GAME!
Not that I buy games but...
KAGAMI! YOUR INFO IS SO OUT OF DATE!
THE VERY MOMENT THE NEWS CAME OUT, I WAS ALREADY ORDERING THE LIMITED EDITION.
I'VE ALSO BOUGHT THE ANIME DVD BOX SET AND THE OTHER MERCHANDISE.
IT OFTEN HAPPENS THAT RECOMMENDEE BECOMES MORE OF A FAN THAN THE RECOMMENDER.
HUH? YOU'RE MORE CAUGHT UP IN IT THAN I AM!
AND YUI-NEESAN BOUGHT A CAR JUST BECAUSE SOMEBODY MENTIONED IT.
They recommended it to her.!
I sure was surprised!
YOUR FAMILY HAS SCARY HOBBY ENERGY!

●Comptiq, January 2006 issue

a weekend tragedy


AHH! THIS WEEK WORE ME OUT!!
ホク
ホク
THE WEEKEND...
I'VE BEEN SO BUSY RECENTLY, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO HAVE ANY FUN!
THIS WEEKEND I THINK I'LL SPEND JUST A LITTLE TIME ON MY NET GAMES.
PACHIK

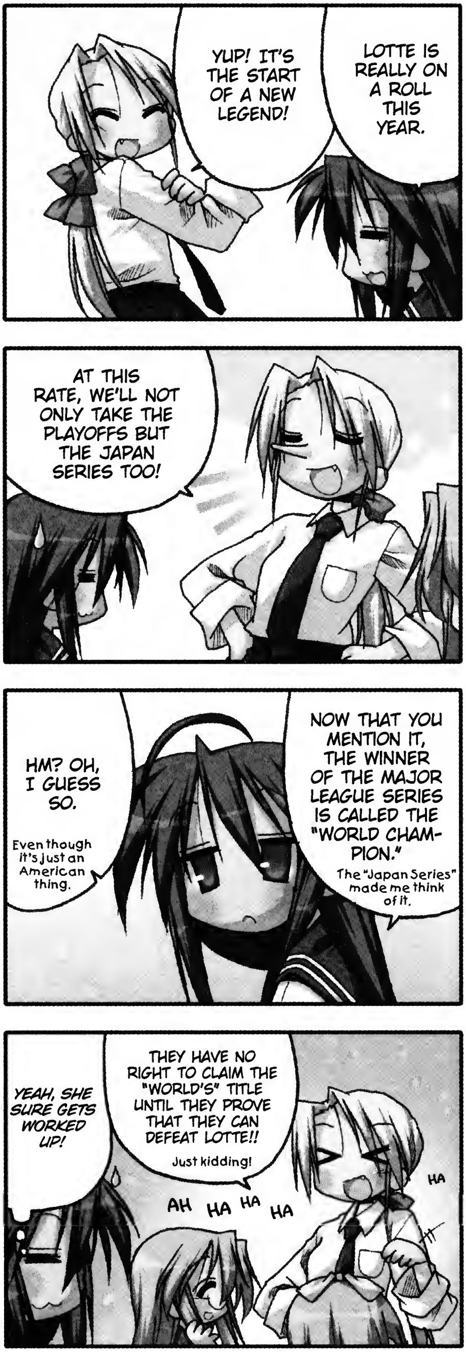
●MAINTENANCE ANNOUNCEMENT●

DUE TO UNFORESEEN AND AS-YET UNIDENTIFIED TECHNICAL PROBLEMS OUR SERVER HAS SUFFERED SOME DAMAGE. WE ARE PRESENTLY PERFORMING MAINTENANCE ON IT.

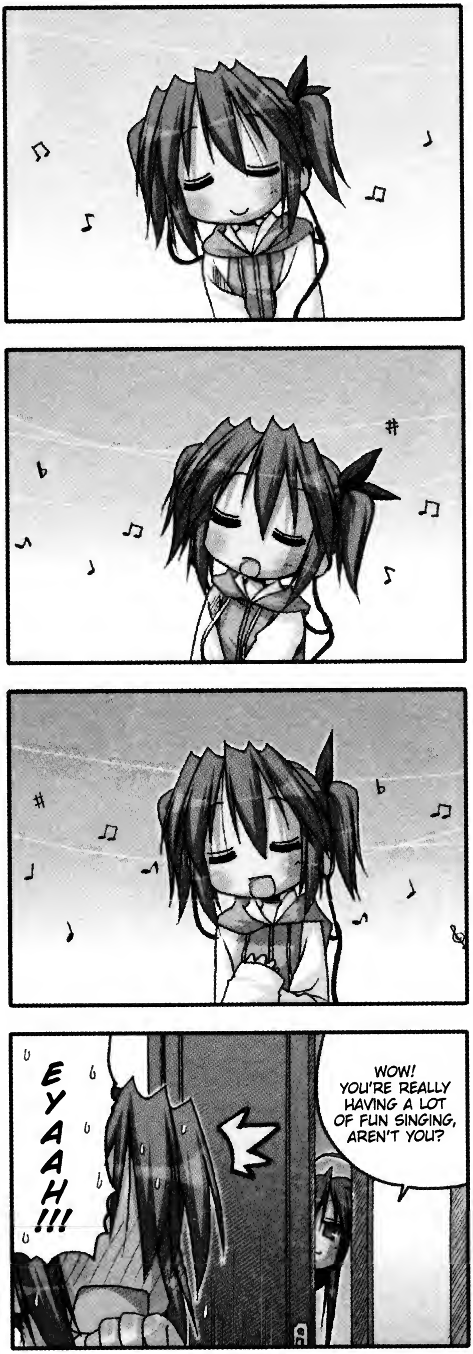
WE WILL ATTEMPT TO INFORM YOU AS SOON AS WE FINISH ADDRESSING THE DIFFICULTIES. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS HAS CAUSED OUR USERS. BUT PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH US AS WE DO OUR BEST TO FIX THE PROBLEM.

WE EXTEND TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND USERS ALL OF OUR

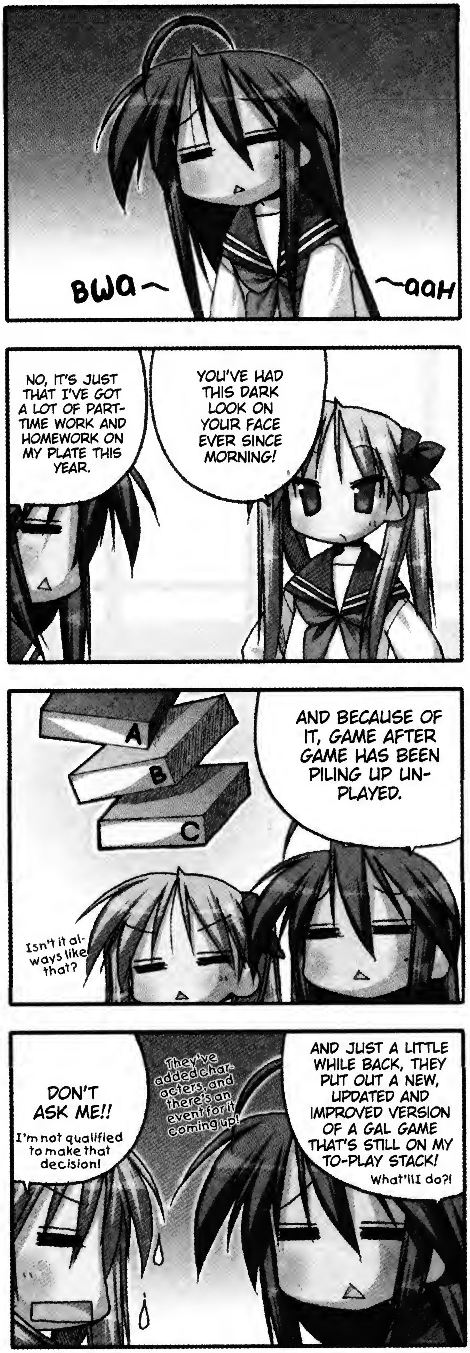
real world champion


LOTTE IS REALLY ON A ROLL THIS YEAR.
YUP! IT'S THE START OF A NEW LEGEND!
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL NOT ONLY TAKE THE PLAYOFFS BUT THE JAPAN SERIES TOO!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THE WINNER OF THE MAJOR LEAGUE SERIES IS CALLED THE "WORLD CHAMPION." The "Japan Series" made me think of it.
HM? OH, I GUESS SO. Even though it's just an American thing.
THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO CLAIM THE "WORLD'S" TITLE UNTIL THEY PROVE THAT THEY CAN DEFEAT LOTTE!! Just kidding!
AH HA HA HA HA
YEAH, SHE SURE GETS WORKED UP!

a world of one's own

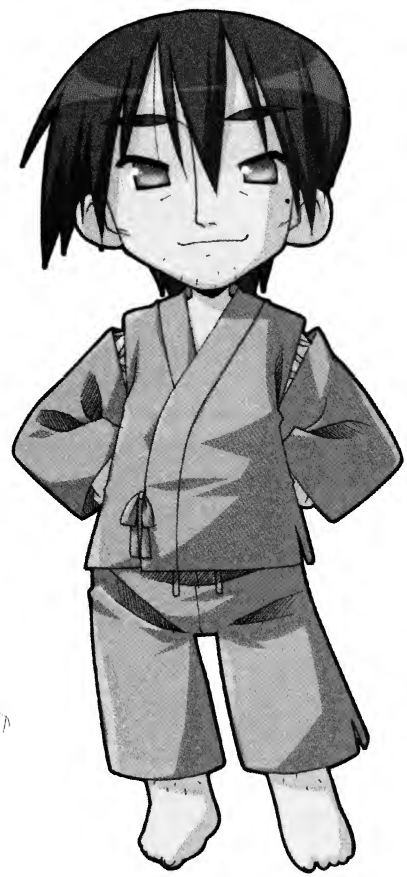

WOW! YOU'RE REALLY HAVING A LOT OF FUN SINGING, AREN'T YOU?
EYAAAH!!!

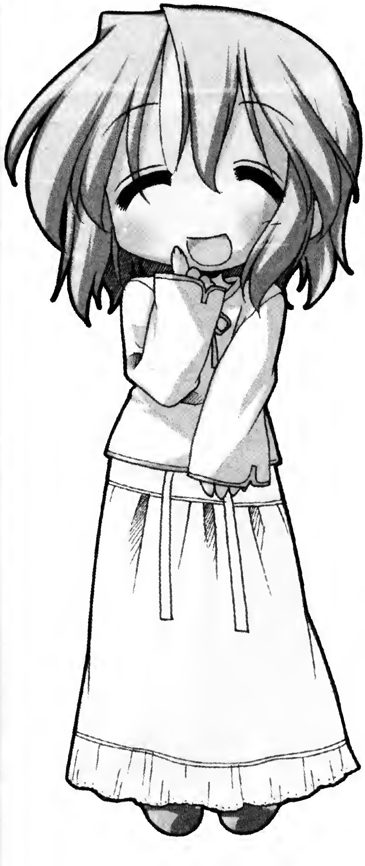
cycle of reincarnation


BWA~ ~AAH
YOU'VE HAD THIS DARK LOOK ON YOUR FACE EVER SINCE MORNING!
NO, IT'S JUST THAT I'VE GOT A LOT OF PART-TIME WORK AND HOMEWORK ON MY PLATE THIS YEAR.
AND BECAUSE OF IT, GAME AFTER GAME HAS BEEN PILING UP UN-PLAYED.
A
B
C
Isn't it always like that?
AND JUST A LITTLE WHILE BACK, THEY PUT OUT A NEW, UPDATED AND IMPROVED VERSION OF A GAL GAME THAT'S STILL ON MY TO-PLAY STACK! What'll I do?!
They've added characters, and there's an event for it coming up!
DON'T ASK ME!! I'm not qualified to make that decision!

SOUJIROU IZUMI

strong point: none to speak of
weak point: none to speak of
The "old block" from which the "chip" came off.
Anybody looking at him and Konata would conclude that he's her father.
To put it another way, he is what Konata would be after reaching her potential.
A very understanding father.

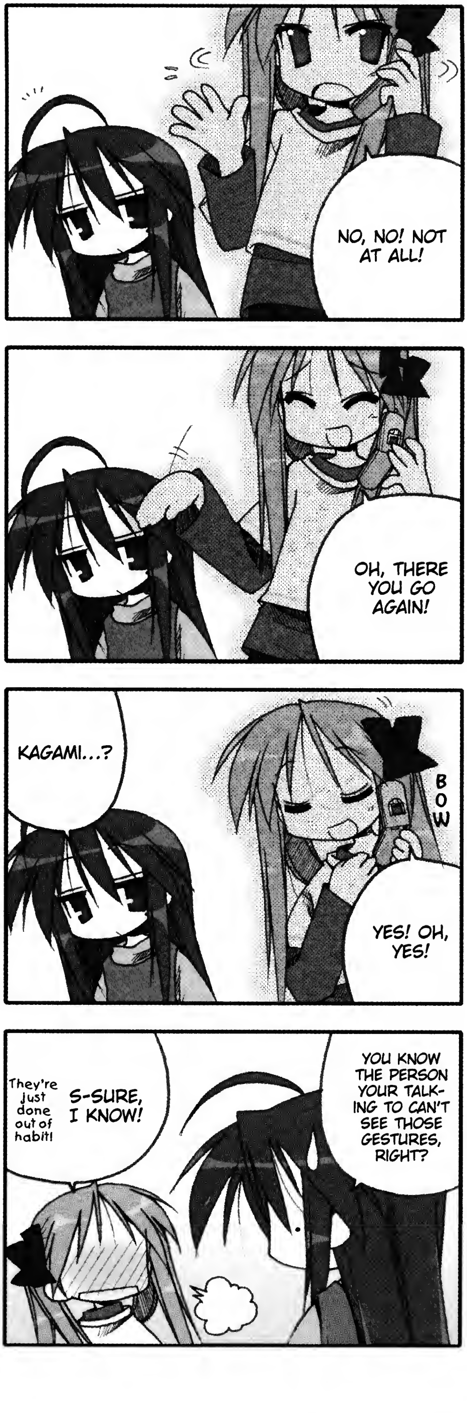




YUKARI TAKARA

strong point: none
weak point: none to speak of
The "old block" from which the "chip" came off.
Anybody looking at her would understand (?) that she is Miyuki's mother.
Her daughter's good grades are all a product of her scatterbrained educational example.
In a way, she is the educational goal Miyuki wants very much to avoid.

phone-etics

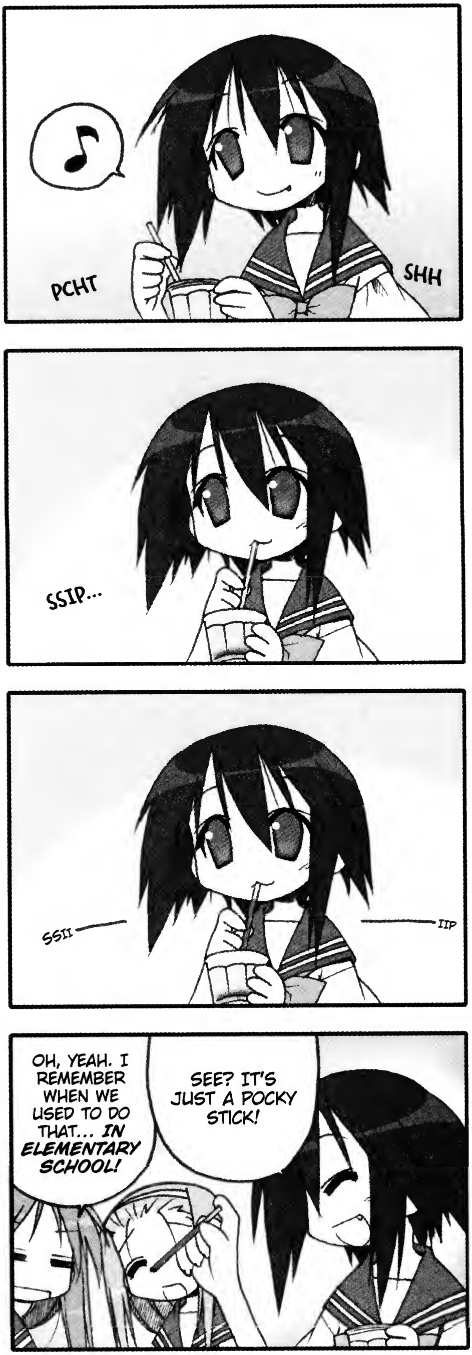

NO, NO! NOT AT ALL!
OH, THERE YOU GO AGAIN!
BOW
YES! OH, YES!
KAGAMI...?
YOU KNOW THE PERSON YOUR TALKING TO CAN'T SEE THOSE GESTURES, RIGHT?
S-SURE, I KNOW!
They're just done out of habit!

Lucky☆Star

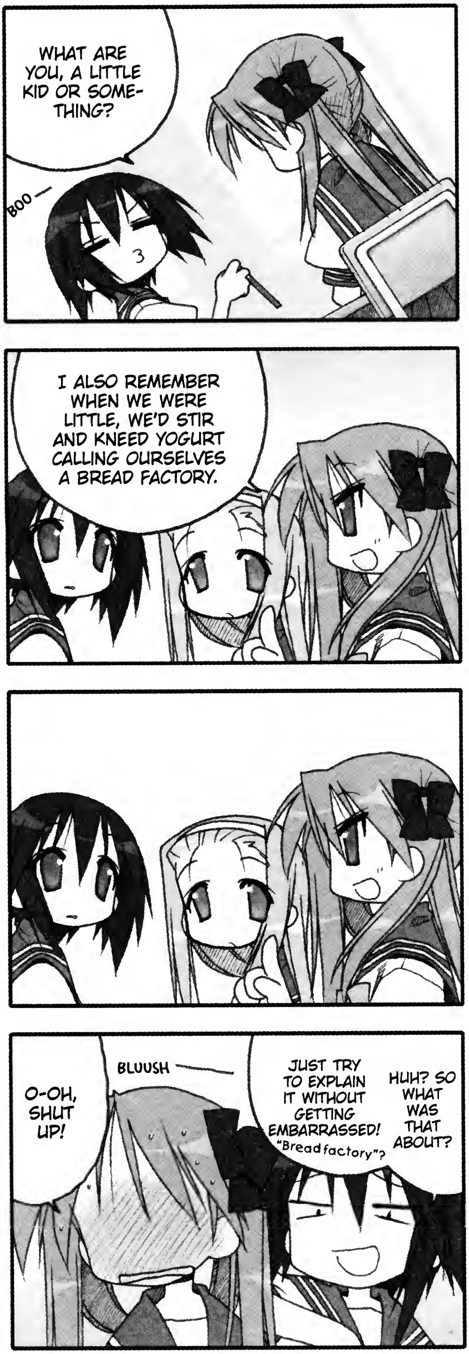
episode 71
momentum

● Shonen Ace, January 2006 issue

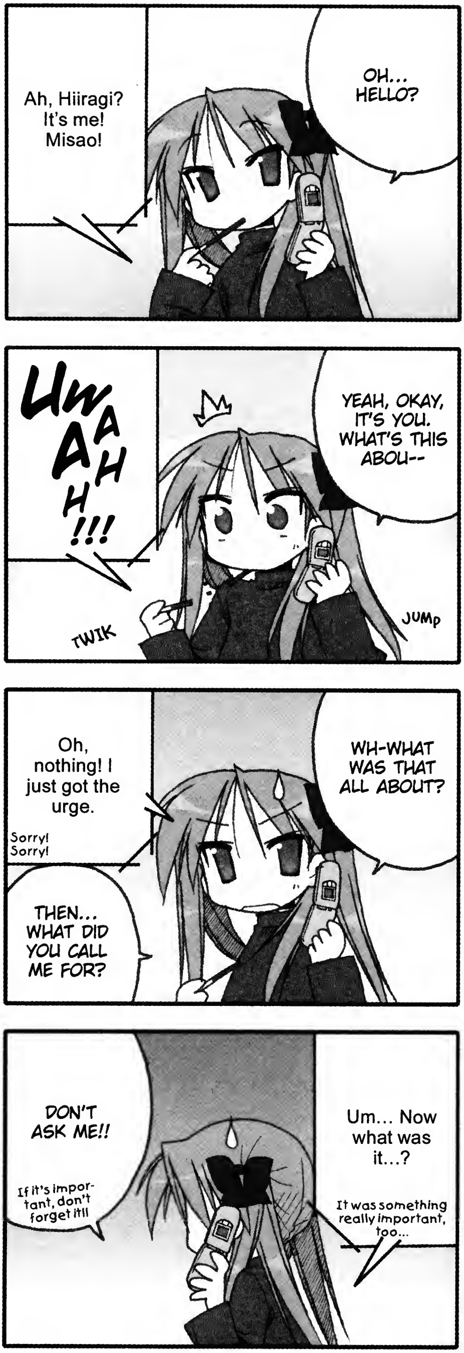
pocky


♪
SHH
PCHT
SSIP...
SSII——— ———IIP
SEE? IT'S JUST A POCKY STICK!
OH, YEAH. I REMEMBER WHEN WE USED TO DO THAT... *IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!*

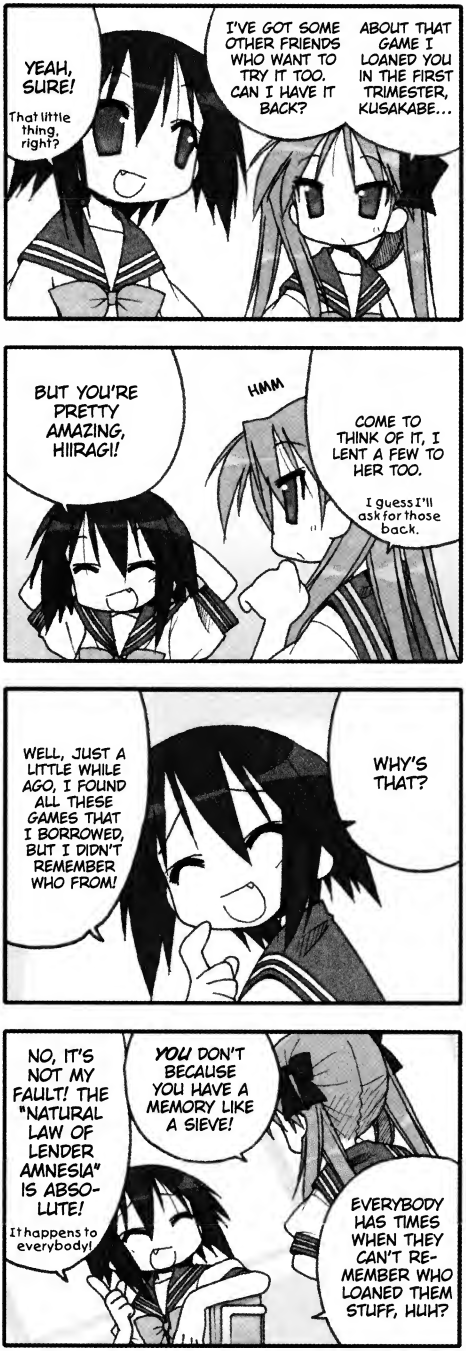
minority


WHAT ARE YOU, A LITTLE KID OR SOMETHING?
BOO—
I ALSO REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE LITTLE, WE'D STIR AND KNEED YOGURT CALLING OURSELVES A BREAD FACTORY.
HUH? SO WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
JUST TRY TO EXPLAIN IT WITHOUT GETTING EMBARRASSED! "Bread factory"?
BLUUSH
O-OH, SHUT UP!

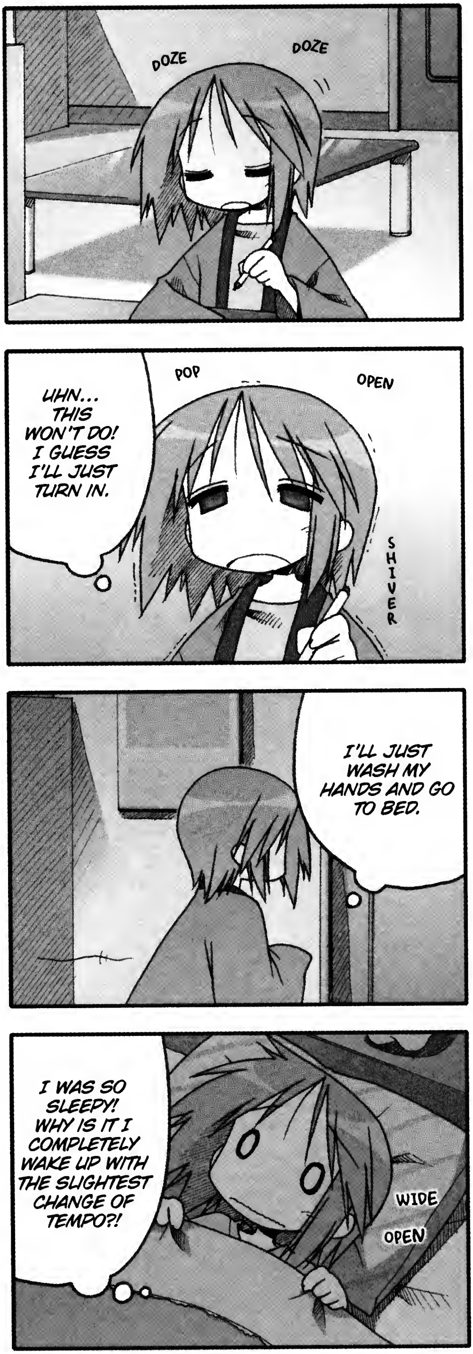
fly away


OH... HELLO?
Ah, Hiiragi? It's me! Misao!
YEAH, OKAY, IT'S YOU. WHAT'S THIS ABOU--
JUMP
UWAAHH!!!
TWIK
WH-WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
Oh, nothing! I just got the urge.
Sorry! Sorry!
THEN... WHAT DID YOU CALL ME FOR?
Um... Now what was it...?
It was something really important, too...
DON'T ASK ME!!
If it's important, don't forget it!!

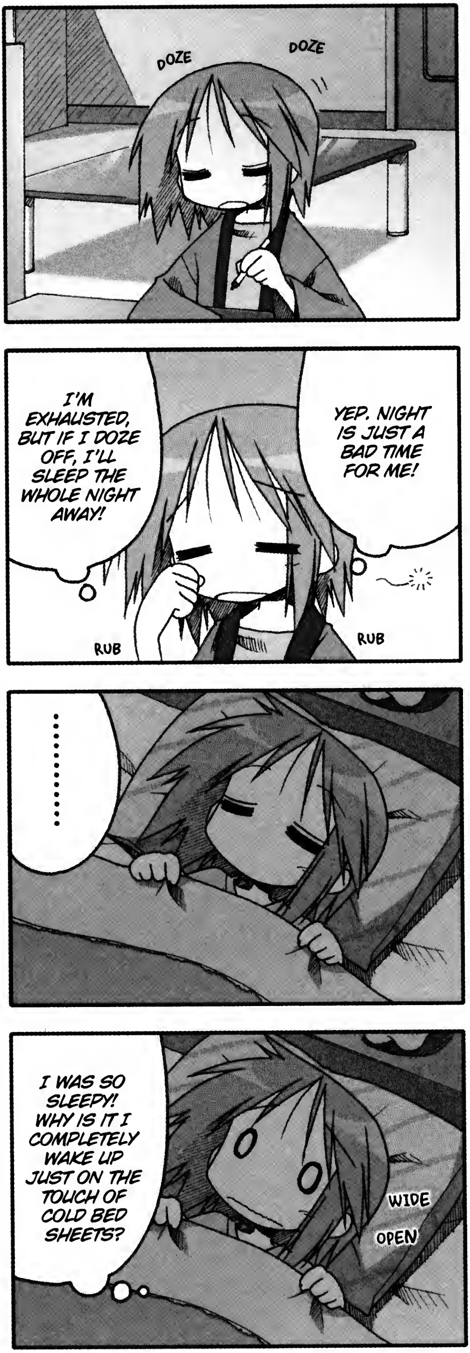
kindness


ABOUT THAT GAME I LOANED YOU IN THE FIRST TRIMESTER, KUSAKABE...
I'VE GOT SOME OTHER FRIENDS WHO WANT TO TRY IT TOO. CAN I HAVE IT BACK?
YEAH, SURE!
That little thing, right?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I LENT A FEW TO HER TOO.
I guess I'll ask for those back.
HMM
BUT YOU'RE PRETTY AMAZING, HIIRAGI!
WHY'S THAT?
WELL, JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO, I FOUND ALL THESE GAMES THAT I BORROWED, BUT I DIDN'T REMEMBER WHO FROM!
EVERYBODY HAS TIMES WHEN THEY CAN'T REMEMBER WHO LOANED THEM STUFF, HUH?
YOU DON'T BECAUSE YOU HAVE A MEMORY LIKE A SIEVE!
NO, IT'S NOT MY FAULT! THE "NATURAL LAW OF LENDER AMNESIA" IS ABSOLUTE!
It happens to everybody!

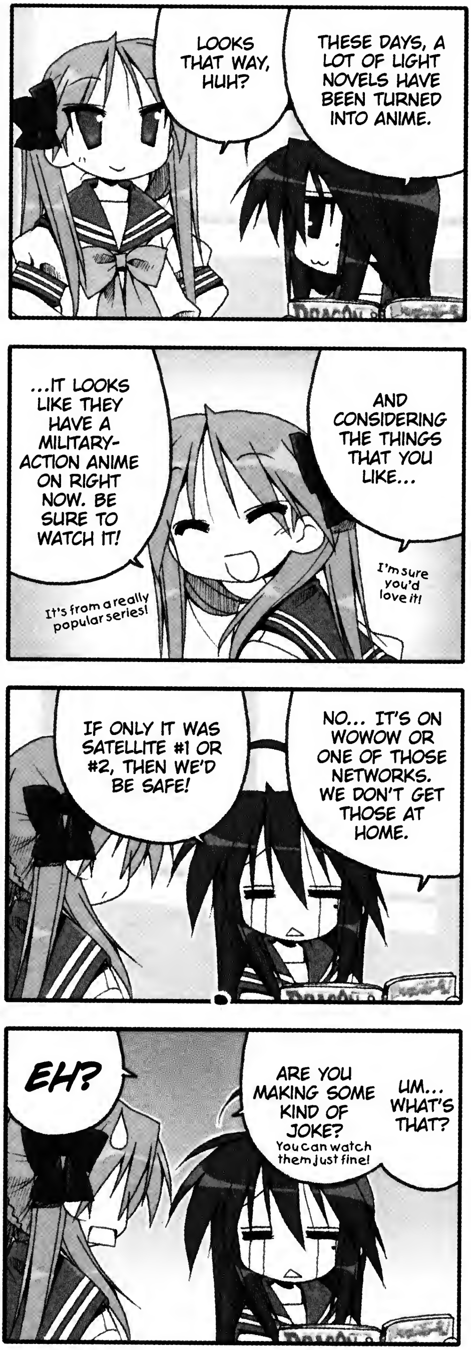
eyes wide


DOZE
DOZE
POP
OPEN
UHN... THIS WON'T DO! I GUESS I'LL JUST TURN IN.
SHIVER
I'LL JUST WASH MY HANDS AND GO TO BED.
I WAS SO SLEEPY! WHY IS IT I COMPLETELY WAKE UP WITH THE SLIGHTEST CHANGE OF TEMPO?!
WIDE
OPEN

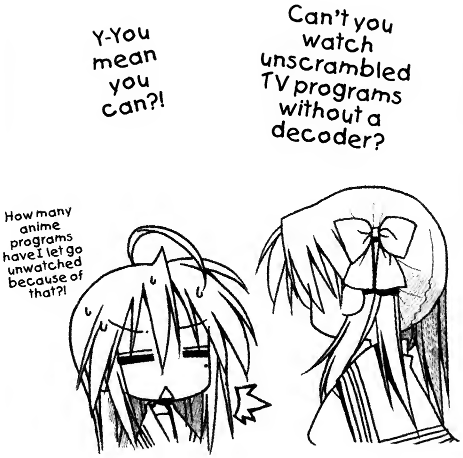
chilled


DOZE
DOZE
YEP. NIGHT IS JUST A BAD TIME FOR ME!
I'M EXHAUSTED, BUT IF I DOZE OFF, I'LL SLEEP THE WHOLE NIGHT AWAY!
RUB
RUB
....
I WAS SO SLEEPY! WHY IS IT I COMPLETELY WAKE UP JUST ON THE TOUCH OF COLD BED SHEETS?
WIDE
OPEN

late-night battlefield


THESE DAYS, A LOT OF LIGHT NOVELS HAVE BEEN TURNED INTO ANIME.
LOOKS THAT WAY, HUH?
AND CONSIDERING THE THINGS THAT YOU LIKE...
I'm sure you'd love it!
...IT LOOKS LIKE THEY HAVE A MILITARY-ACTION ANIME ON RIGHT NOW. BE SURE TO WATCH IT!
It's from a really popular series!
NO... IT'S ON WOWOW OR ONE OF THOSE NETWORKS. WE DON'T GET THOSE AT HOME.
IF ONLY IT WAS SATELLITE #1 OR #2, THEN WE'D BE SAFE!
UM... WHAT'S THAT?
ARE YOU MAKING SOME KIND OF JOKE? You can watch them just fine!
EH?

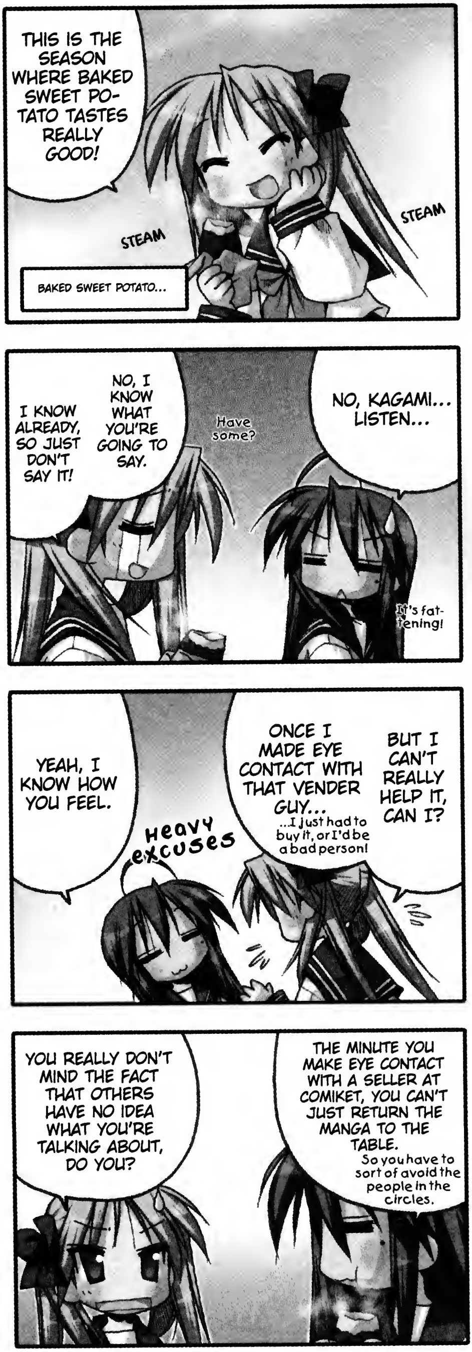
● Dragon Magazine, September 2005 issue


Can't you watch unscrambled TV programs without a decoder?
Y-You mean you can?!
How many anime programs have I let go unwatched because of that?!

one-track

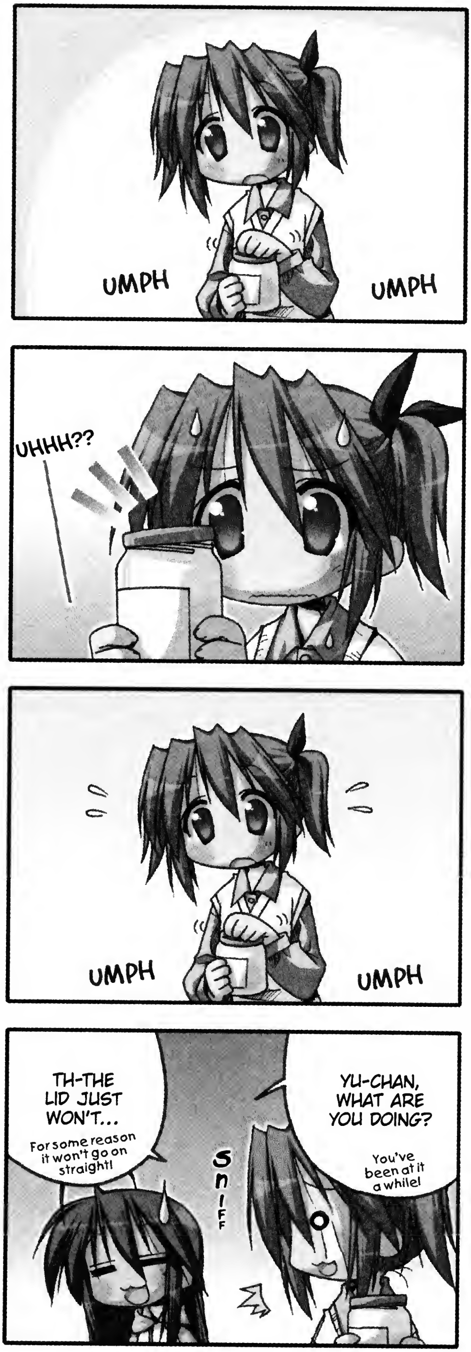
Lucky☆Star

episode 72
ideals and reality

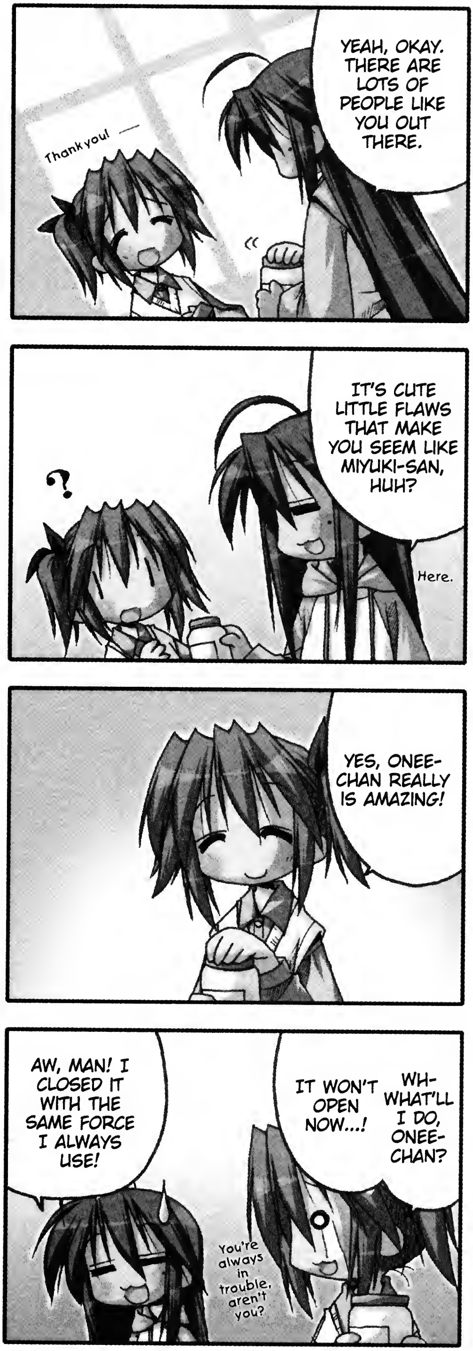

THIS IS THE SEASON WHERE BAKED SWEET POTATO TASTES REALLY GOOD!
STEAM
STEAM
BAKED SWEET POTATO...
NO, KAGAMI... LISTEN...
Have some?
NO, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY.
I KNOW ALREADY, SO JUST DON'T SAY IT!
It's fattening!
BUT I CAN'T REALLY HELP IT, CAN I?
ONCE I MADE EYE CONTACT WITH THAT VENDER GUY...
...I just had to buy it, or I'd be a bad person!
Heavy excuses
YEAH, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
THE MINUTE YOU MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH A SELLER AT COMIKET, YOU CAN'T JUST RETURN THE MANGA TO THE TABLE.
So you have to sort of avoid the people in the circles.
YOU REALLY DON'T MIND THE FACT THAT OTHERS HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, DO YOU?

●Comptiq, February 2006 issue

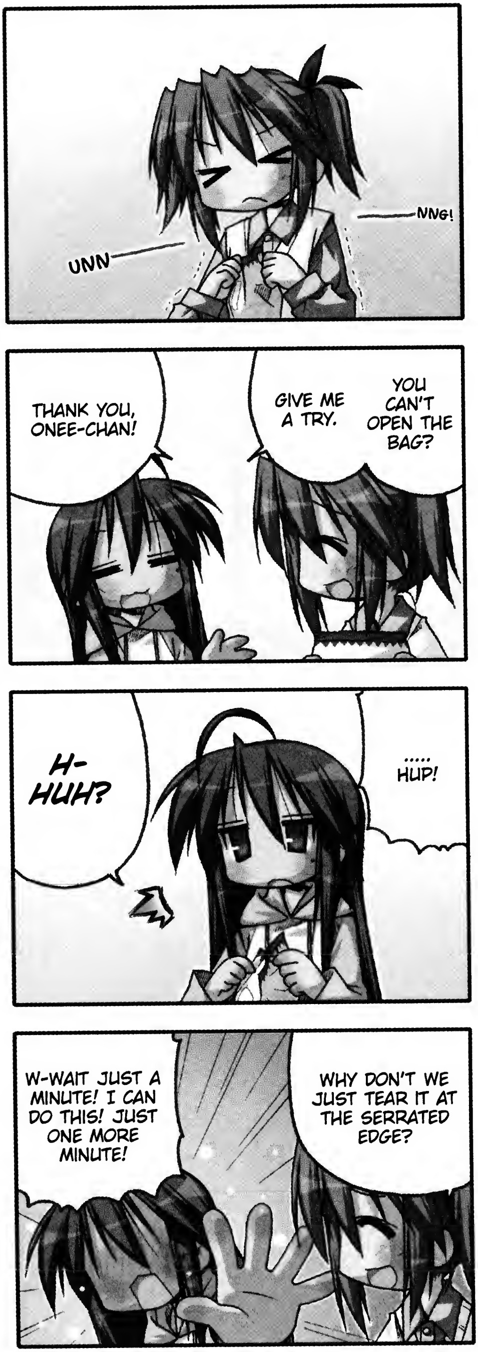
having troubles?


UMPH
UMPH
UHHH??
UMPH
UMPH
YU-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
You've been at it a while!
TH-THE LID JUST WON'T...
For some reason it won't go on straight!
Sniff

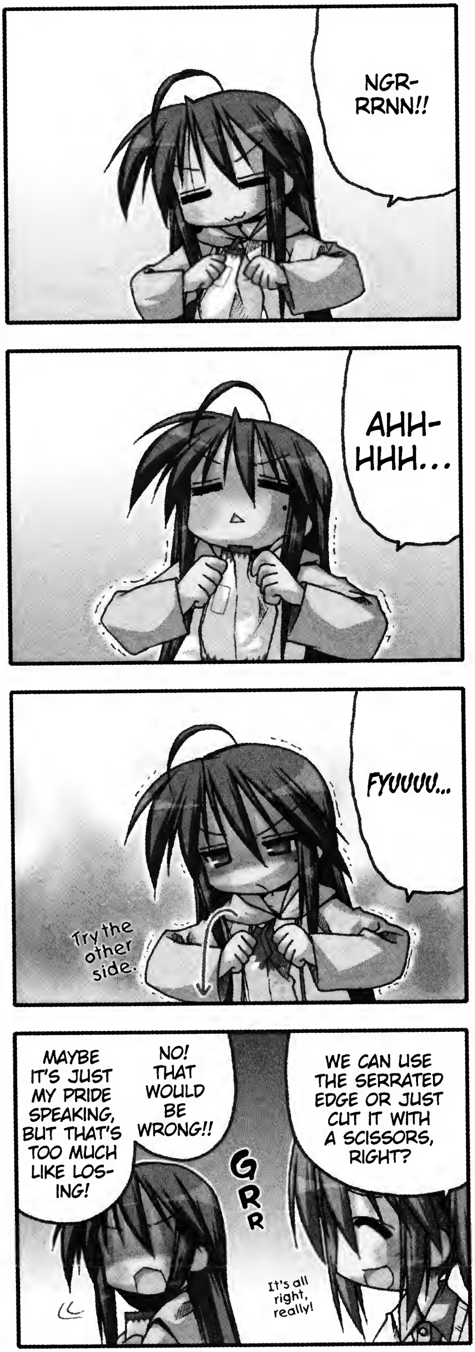
not keeping up appearances?


YEAH, OKAY. THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU OUT THERE.
Thank you!
IT'S CUTE LITTLE FLAWS THAT MAKE YOU SEEM LIKE MIYUKI-SAN, HUH?
Here.
?
YES, ONEE-CHAN REALLY IS AMAZING!
IT WON'T OPEN NOW...! WH-WHAT'LL I DO, ONEE-CHAN?
You're always in trouble, aren't you?
AW, MAN! I CLOSED IT WITH THE SAME FORCE I ALWAYS USE!

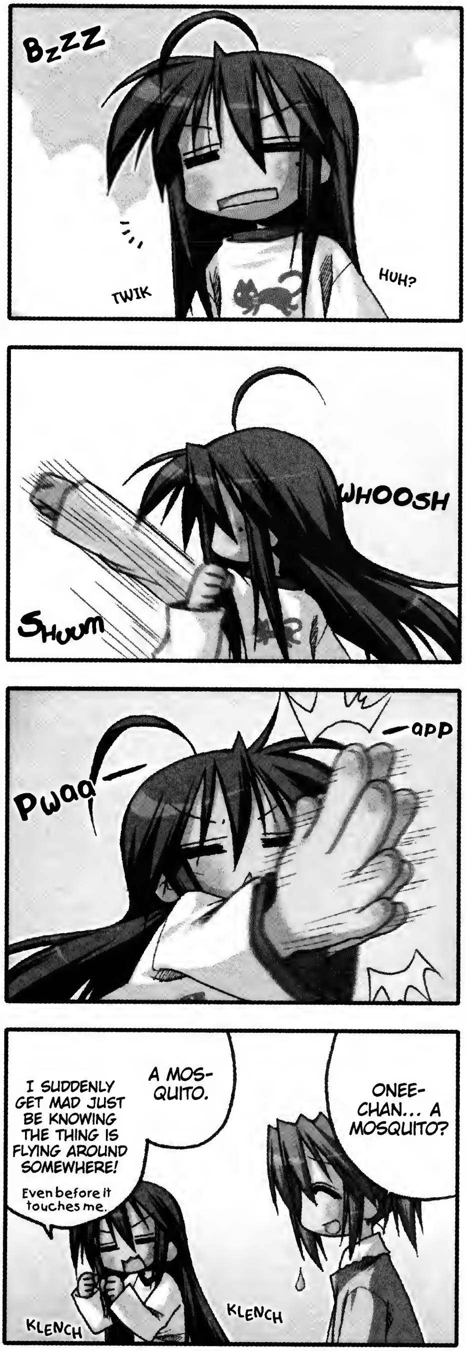
leave it to me


NNG!
UNN
YOU CAN'T OPEN THE BAG?
GIVE ME A TRY.
THANK YOU, ONEE-CHAN!
.....HUP!
H-HUH?
WHY DON'T WE JUST TEAR IT AT THE SERRATED EDGE?
W-WAIT JUST A MINUTE! I CAN DO THIS! JUST ONE MORE MINUTE!

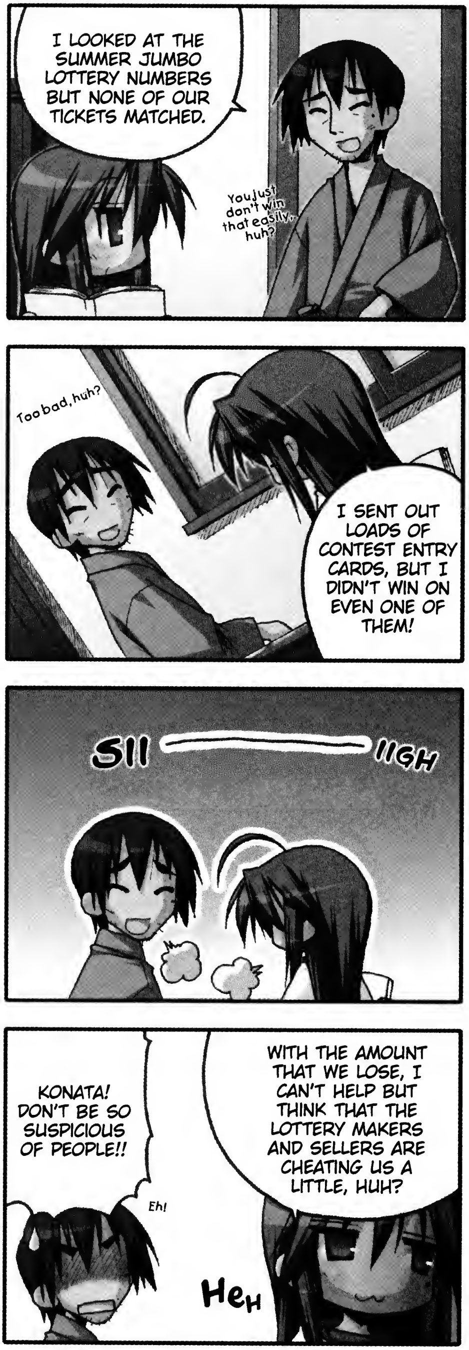
just prior to the explosion


NGR-RRNN!!
AHH-HHH...
FYUUUU...
Try the other side.
WE CAN USE THE SERRATED EDGE OR JUST CUT IT WITH A SCISSORS, RIGHT?
NO! THAT WOULD BE WRONG!!
MAYBE IT'S JUST MY PRIDE SPEAKING, BUT THAT'S TOO MUCH LIKE LOSING!
GRR
It's all right, really!

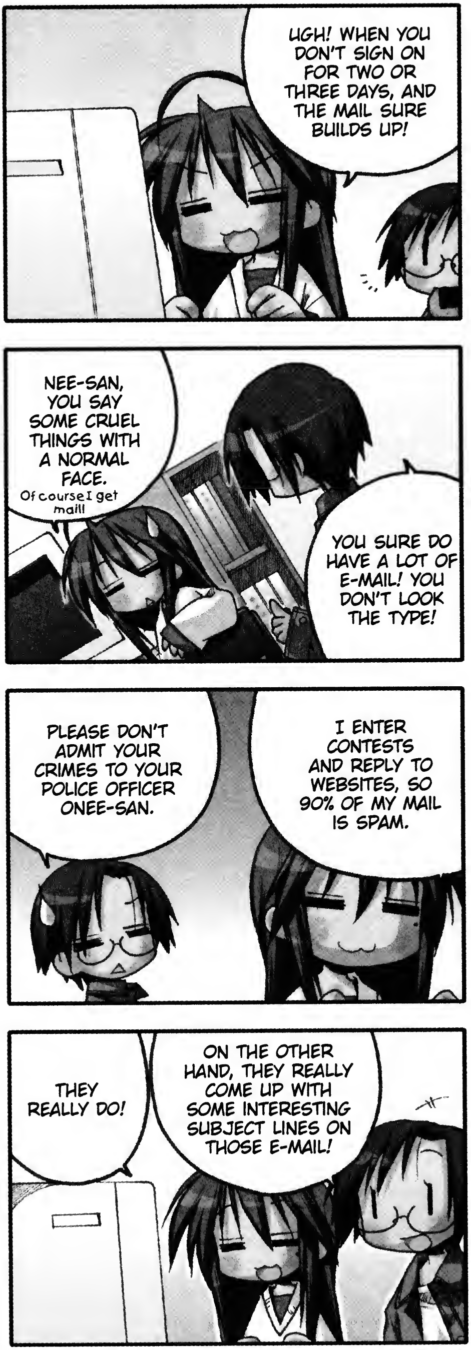
enter: black thing.


BzZZ
HUH?
TWIK
WHOOSH
SHUUM
—app
Pwaa—
ONEE-CHAN... A MOSQUITO?
A MOSQUITO.
I SUDDENLY GET MAD JUST BE KNOWING THE THING IS FLYING AROUND SOMEWHERE!
Even before it touches me.
KLENCH
KLENCH

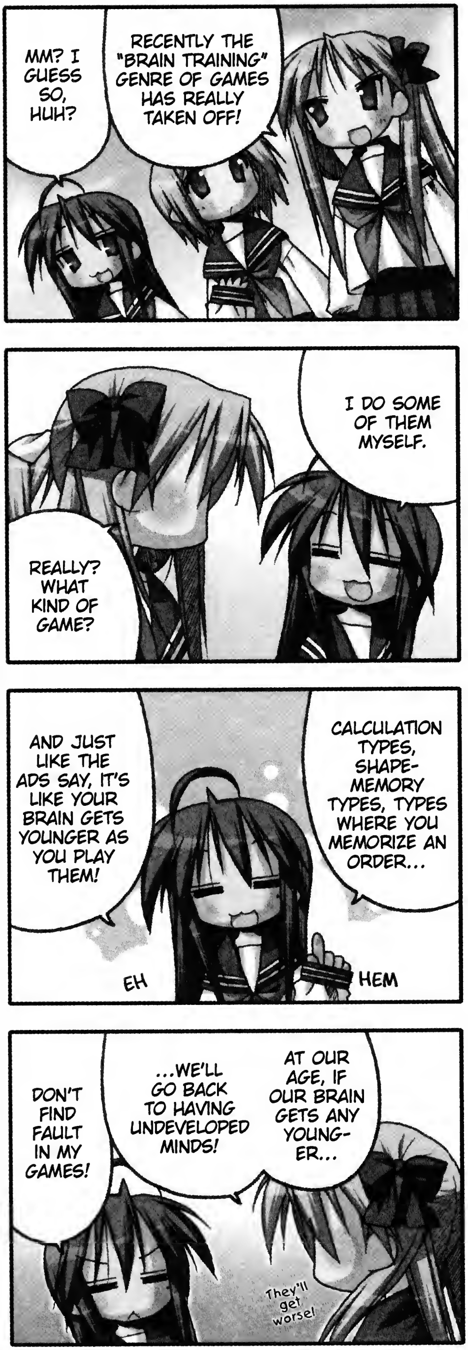
rules of the world


I LOOKED AT THE SUMMER JUMBO LOTTERY NUMBERS BUT NONE OF OUR TICKETS MATCHED.
You just don't win that easily, huh?
I SENT OUT LOADS OF CONTEST ENTRY CARDS, BUT I DIDN'T WIN ON EVEN ONE OF THEM!
Too bad, huh?
SII——IIGH
WITH THE AMOUNT THAT WE LOSE, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT THE LOTTERY MAKERS AND SELLERS ARE CHEATING US A LITTLE, HUH?
HEH
KONATA! DON'T BE SO SUSPICIOUS OF PEOPLE!!
Eh!

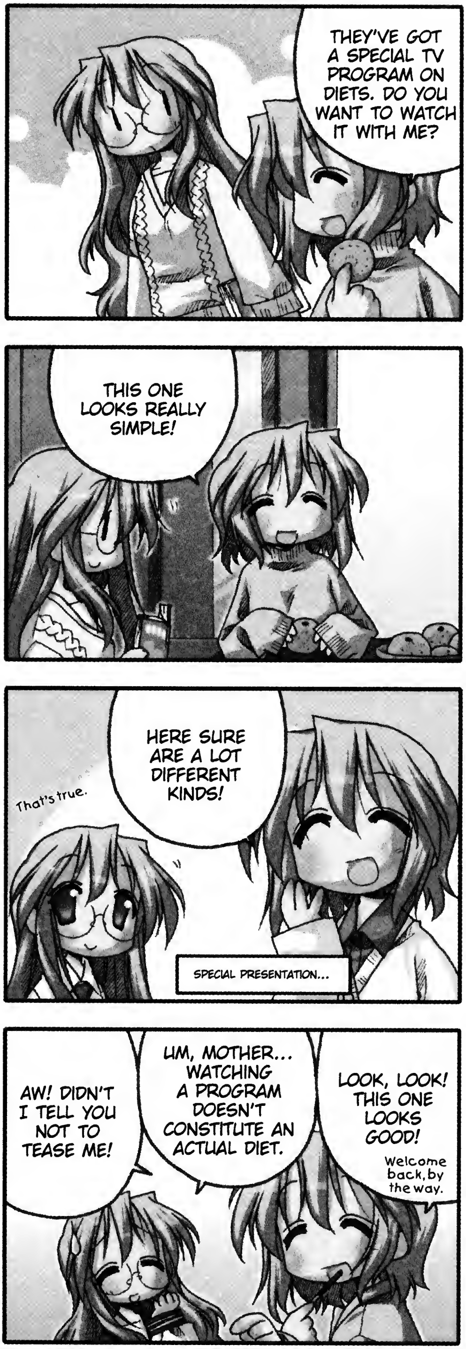
re: yesterday was so fun, huh? ♪


UGH! WHEN YOU DON'T SIGN ON FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS, AND THE MAIL SURE BUILDS UP!
YOU SURE DO HAVE A LOT OF E-MAIL! YOU DON'T LOOK THE TYPE!
NEE-SAN, YOU SAY SOME CRUEL THINGS WITH A NORMAL FACE.
Of course I get mail!
I ENTER CONTESTS AND REPLY TO WEBSITES, SO 90% OF MY MAIL IS SPAM.
PLEASE DON'T ADMIT YOUR CRIMES TO YOUR POLICE OFFICER ONEE-SAN.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY REALLY COME UP WITH SOME INTERESTING SUBJECT LINES ON THOSE E-MAIL!
THEY REALLY DO!

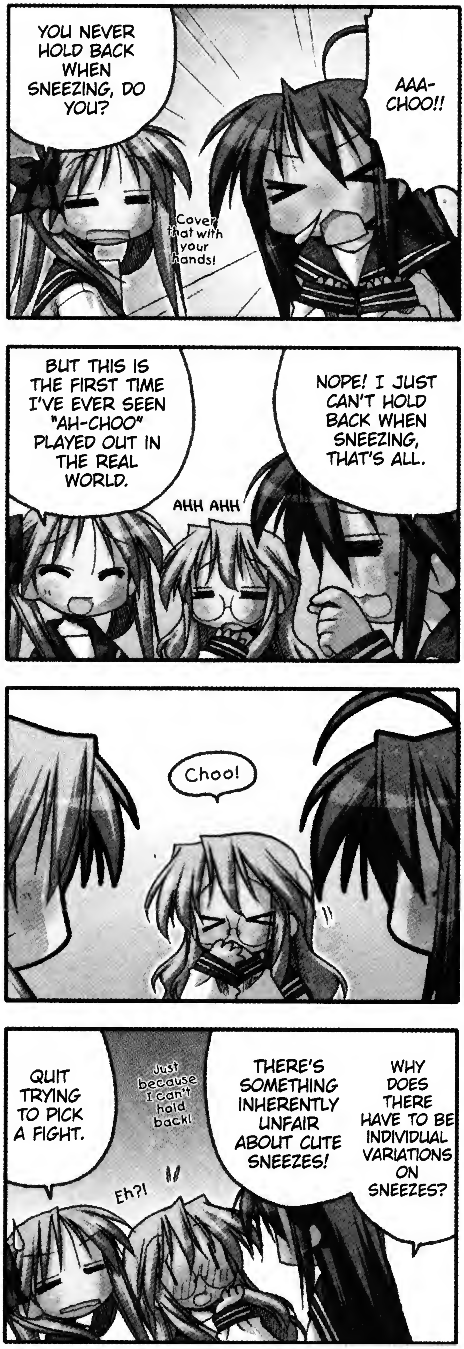
regression


RECENTLY THE "BRAIN TRAINING" GENRE OF GAMES HAS REALLY TAKEN OFF!
MM? I GUESS SO, HUH?
I DO SOME OF THEM MYSELF.
REALLY? WHAT KIND OF GAME?
CALCULATION TYPES, SHAPE-MEMORY TYPES, TYPES WHERE YOU MEMORIZE AN ORDER...
AND JUST LIKE THE ADS SAY, IT'S LIKE YOUR BRAIN GETS YOUNGER AS YOU PLAY THEM!
EH
HEM
AT OUR AGE, IF OUR BRAIN GETS ANY YOUNGER...
...WE'LL GO BACK TO HAVING UNDEVELOPED MINDS!
They'll get worse!
DON'T FIND FAULT IN MY GAMES!

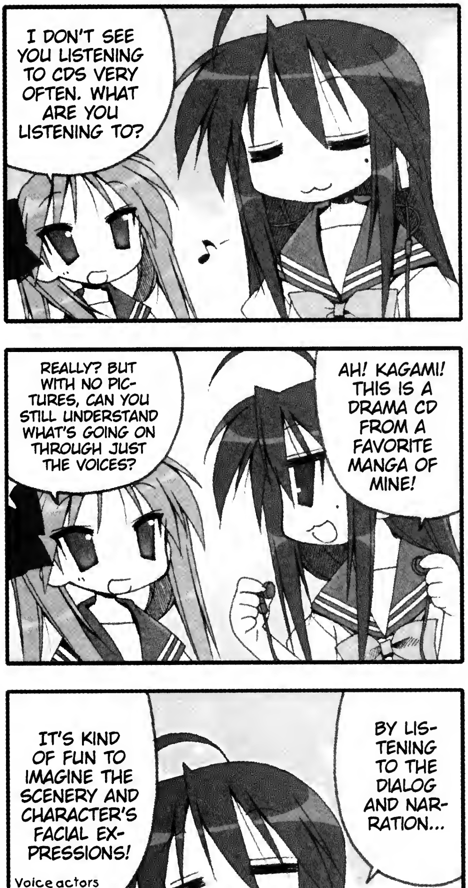
just-watching-that's-all


THEY'VE GOT A SPECIAL TV PROGRAM ON DIETS. DO YOU WANT TO WATCH IT WITH ME?
THIS ONE LOOKS REALLY SIMPLE!
HERE SURE ARE A LOT DIFFERENT KINDS!
That's true.
SPECIAL PRESENTATION...
LOOK, LOOK! THIS ONE LOOKS GOOD!
Welcome back, by the way.
UM, MOTHER... WATCHING A PROGRAM DOESN'T CONSTITUTE AN ACTUAL DIET.
AW! DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO TEASE ME!

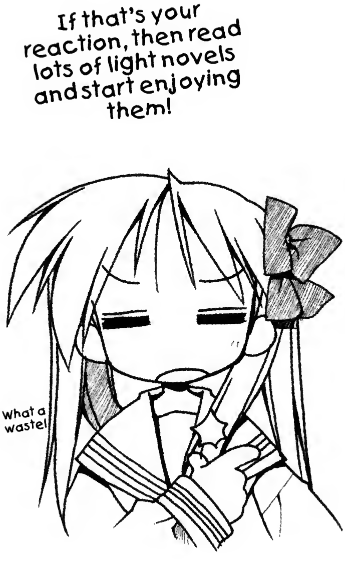
what's with this difference?


AAA-CHOO!!
YOU NEVER HOLD BACK WHEN SNEEZING, DO YOU?
Cover that with your hands!
NOPE! I JUST CAN'T HOLD BACK WHEN SNEEZING, THAT'S ALL.
AHH AHH
BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN "AH-CHOO" PLAYED OUT IN THE REAL WORLD.
Choo!
WHY DOES THERE HAVE TO BE INDIVIDUAL VARIATIONS ON SNEEZES?
THERE'S SOMETHING INHERENTLY UNFAIR ABOUT CUTE SNEEZES!
Just because I can't hold back!
Eh?!
QUIT TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT.

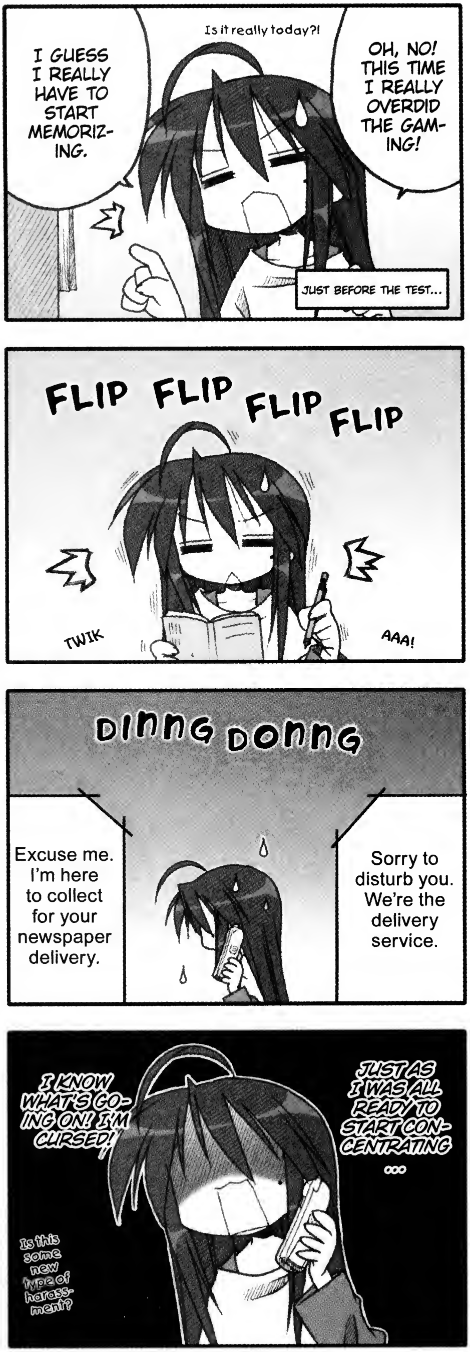
conditions


I DON'T SEE YOU LISTENING TO CDS VERY OFTEN. WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?
AH! KAGAMI! THIS IS A DRAMA CD FROM A FAVORITE MANGA OF MINE!
REALLY? BUT WITH NO PICTURES, CAN YOU STILL UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON THROUGH JUST THE VOICES?
BY LISTENING TO THE DIALOG AND NARRATION...
IT'S KIND OF FUN TO IMAGINE THE SCENERY AND CHARACTER'S FACIAL EXPRESSIONS!
Voice actors are really good!
OH, YEAH? NOW LET'S RECALL WHAT YOU SAID WHEN I RECOMMENDED LIGHT NOVELS TO YOU, SHALL WE?
As I recall, you said...
..."It's a pain trying to imagine that stuff!"

● From Dragon Magazine, October 2005 issue


If that's your reaction, then read lots of light novels and start enjoying them!
What a waste!

lock-on

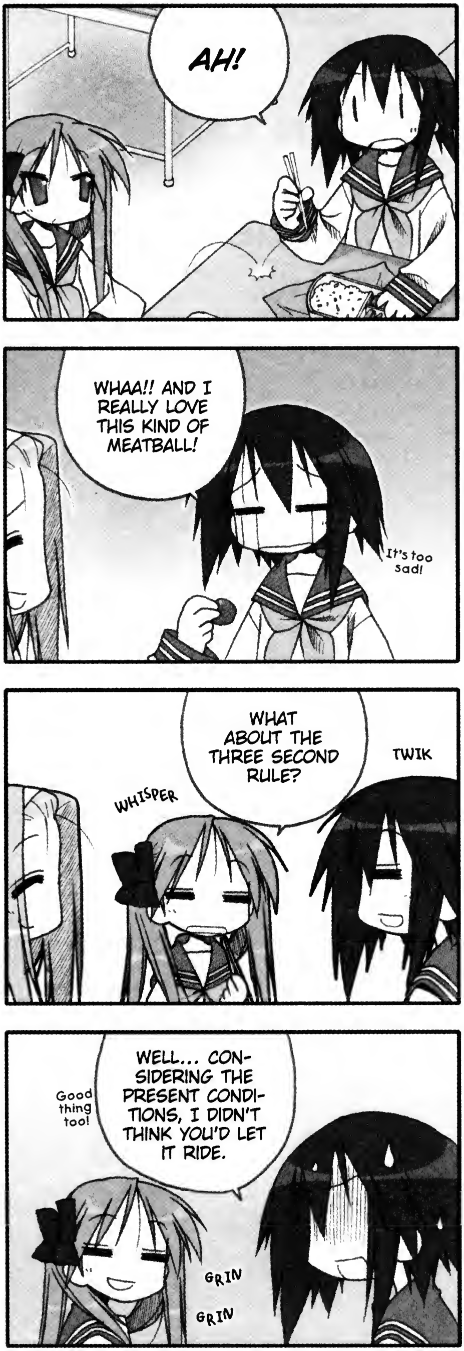

OH, NO! THIS TIME I REALLY OVERDID THE GAMING!
Is it really today?!
I GUESS I REALLY HAVE TO START MEMORIZING.
JUST BEFORE THE TEST...
FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP
AAA!
TWIK
DINNG DONNG
Sorry to disturb you. We're the delivery service.
Excuse me. I'm here to collect for your newspaper delivery.
JUST AS I WAS ALL READY TO START CONCENTRATING...
I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON! I'M CURSED!
Is this some new type of harassment?

Lucky☆Star

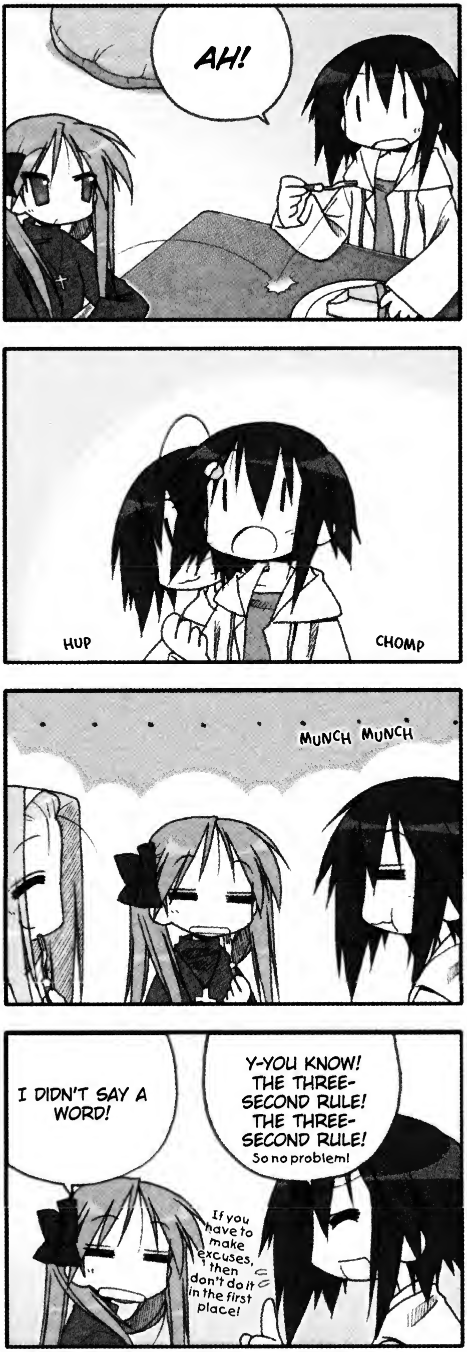
episode 73
blind to inconveniences

● Shonen Ace, February 2006 issue

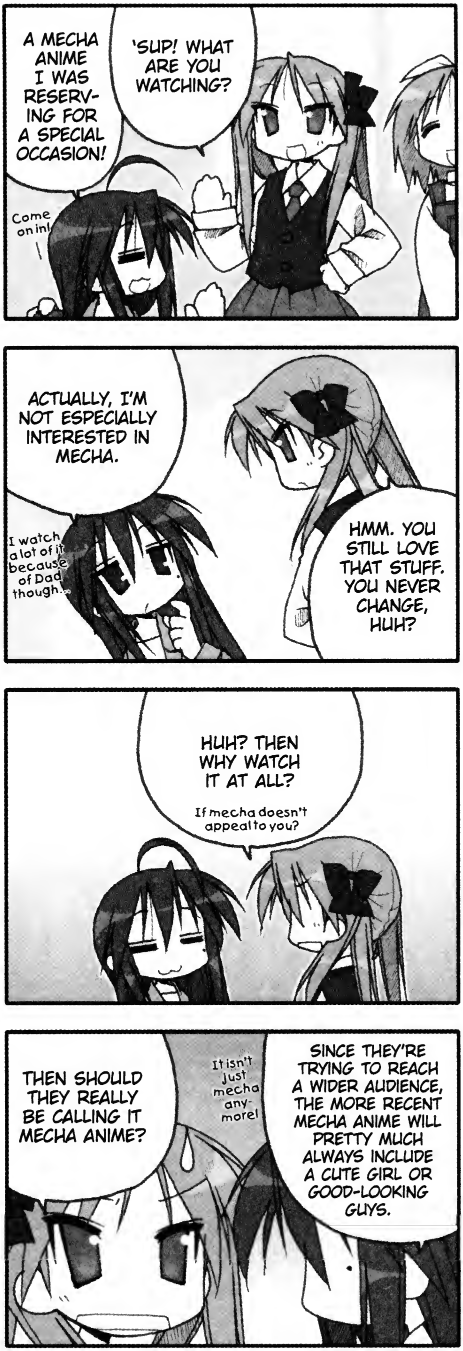
conditions


AH!
WHAA!! AND I REALLY LOVE THIS KIND OF MEATBALL!
It's too sad!
TWIK
WHAT ABOUT THE THREE SECOND RULE?
WHISPER
WELL... CONSIDERING THE PRESENT CONDITIONS, I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D LET IT RIDE.
Good thing too!
GRIN
GRIN

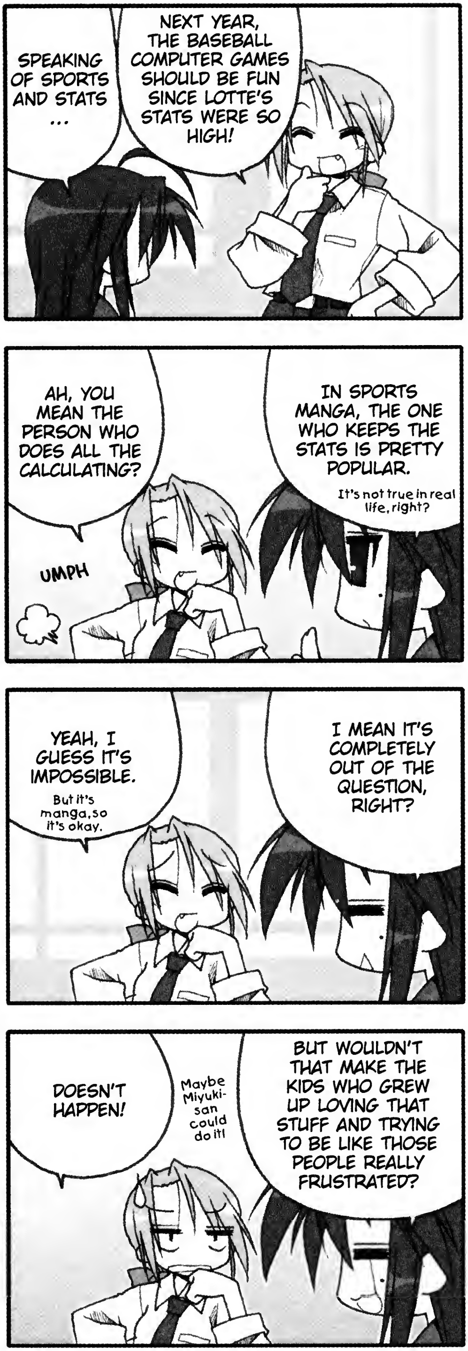
the unwritten rule


AH!
HUP
CHOMP
MUNCH MUNCH
Y-YOU KNOW! THE THREE-SECOND RULE! THE THREE-SECOND RULE! So no problem!
I DIDN'T SAY A WORD!
If you have to make excuses, then don't do it in the first place!

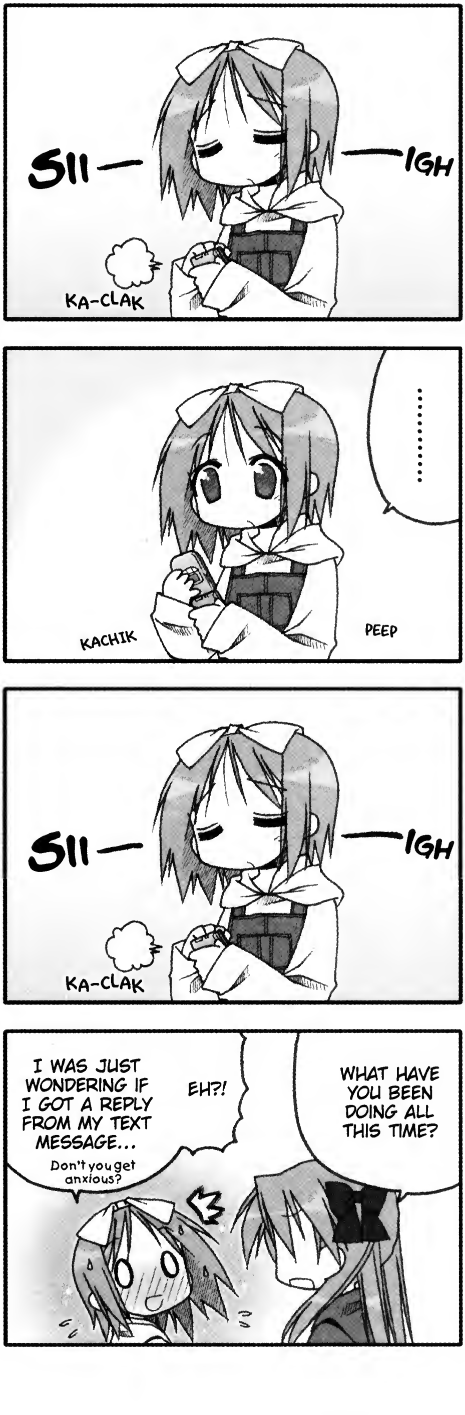
character


'SUP! WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?
A MECHA ANIME I WAS RESERVING FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION!
Come on in!
HMM. YOU STILL LOVE THAT STUFF. YOU NEVER CHANGE, HUH?
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN MECHA.
I watch a lot of it because of Dad though...
HUH? THEN WHY WATCH IT AT ALL?
If mecha doesn't appeal to you?
SINCE THEY'RE TRYING TO REACH A WIDER AUDIENCE, THE MORE RECENT MECHA ANIME WILL PRETTY MUCH ALWAYS INCLUDE A CUTE GIRL OR GOOD-LOOKING GUYS.
It isn't just mecha anymore!
THEN SHOULD THEY REALLY BE CALLING IT MECHA ANIME?

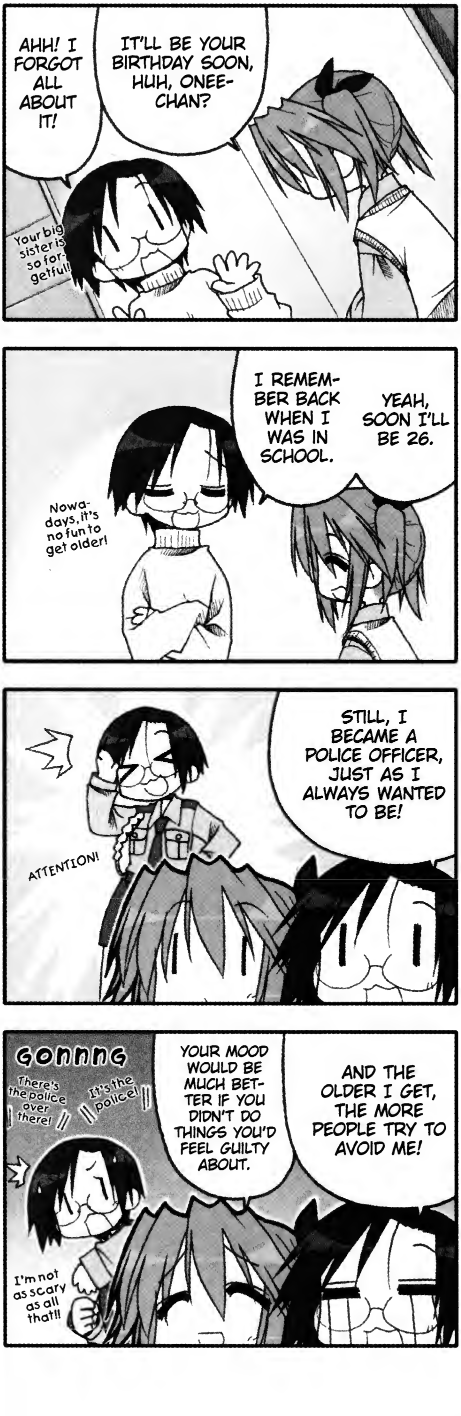
as long as its interesting


NEXT YEAR, THE BASEBALL COMPUTER GAMES SHOULD BE FUN SINCE LOTTE'S STATS WERE SO HIGH!
SPEAKING OF SPORTS AND STATS ...
IN SPORTS MANGA, THE ONE WHO KEEPS THE STATS IS PRETTY POPULAR.
It's not true in real life, right?
AH, YOU MEAN THE PERSON WHO DOES ALL THE CALCULATING?
UMPH
I MEAN IT'S COMPLETELY OUT OF THE QUESTION, RIGHT?
YEAH, I GUESS IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
But it's manga, so it's okay.
BUT WOULDN'T THAT MAKE THE KIDS WHO GREW UP LOVING THAT STUFF AND TRYING TO BE LIKE THOSE PEOPLE REALLY FRUSTRATED?
Maybe Miyuki-san could do it!
DOESN'T HAPPEN!

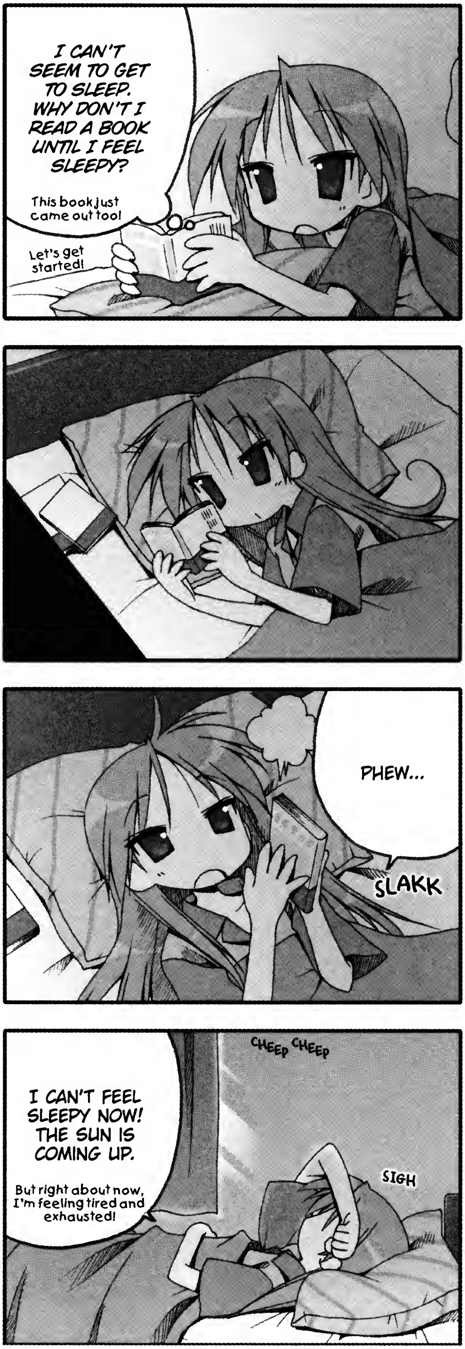
long in coming


SII—
—IGH
KA-CLAK
....
KACHIK
PEEP
SII—
—IGH
KA-CLAK
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL THIS TIME?
EH?!
I WAS JUST WONDERING IF I GOT A REPLY FROM MY TEXT MESSAGE...
Don't you get anxious?

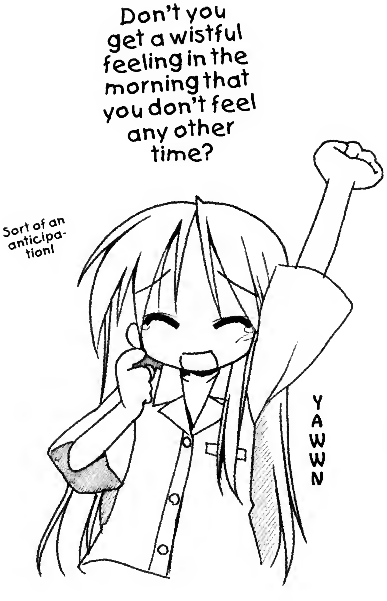
job is becoming her personality


IT'LL BE YOUR BIRTHDAY SOON, HUH, ONEE-CHAN?
AHH! I FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT!
Your big sister is so forgetful!
YEAH, SOON I'LL BE 26.
I REMEMBER BACK WHEN I WAS IN SCHOOL.
Nowadays, it's no fun to get older!
STILL, I BECAME A POLICE OFFICER, JUST AS I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE!
ATTENTION!
AND THE OLDER I GET, THE MORE PEOPLE TRY TO AVOID ME!
YOUR MOOD WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T DO THINGS YOU'D FEEL GUILTY ABOUT.
GONNNG
It's the police!
There's the police over there!
I'm not as scary as all that!!

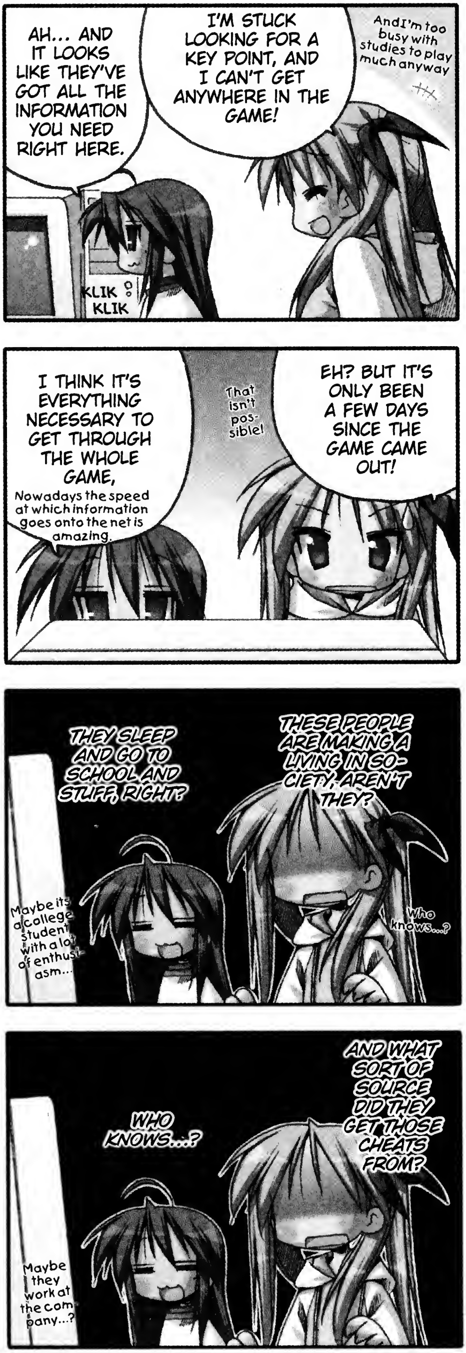
consciousness


I CAN'T SEEM TO GET TO SLEEP. WHY DON'T I READ A BOOK UNTIL I FEEL SLEEPY?
This book just came out too!
Let's get started!
PHEW...
SLAKK
CHEEP CHEEP
I CAN'T FEEL SLEEPY NOW! THE SUN IS COMING UP.
But right about now, I'm feeling tired and exhausted!
SIGH

● **From Dragon Magazine, November 2005 issue**


Don't you get a wistful feeling in the morning that you don't feel any other time?
Sort of an anticipation!
YAWWN

the masters of the tower

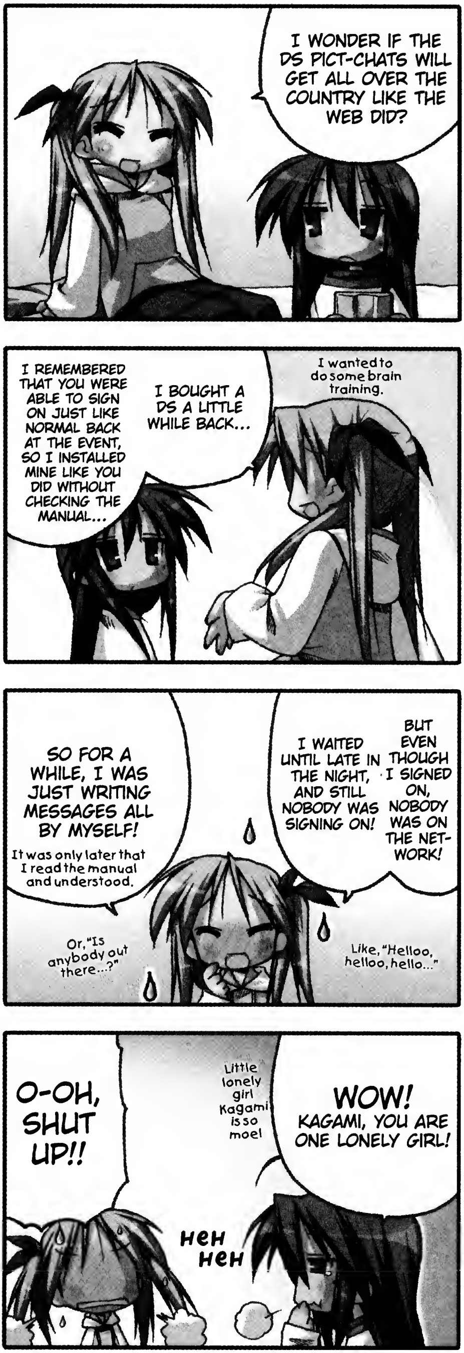

AndI'm too busy with studies to play much anyway
I'M STUCK LOOKING FOR A KEY POINT, AND I CAN'T GET ANYWHERE IN THE GAME!
AH... AND IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GOT ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED RIGHT HERE.
KLIK KLIK
EH? BUT IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW DAYS SINCE THE GAME CAME OUT!
That isn't possible!
I THINK IT'S EVERYTHING NECESSARY TO GET THROUGH THE WHOLE GAME,
Nowadays the speed at which information goes onto the net is amazing.
THESE PEOPLE ARE MAKING A LIVING IN SOCIETY, AREN'T THEY?
Who knows...?
THEY SLEEP AND GO TO SCHOOL AND STUFF, RIGHT?
Maybe it's a college student with a lot of enthusiasm...
AND WHAT SORT OF SOURCE DID THEY GET THOSE CHEATS FROM?
WHO KNOWS...?
Maybe they work at the company...?

Lucky☆Star

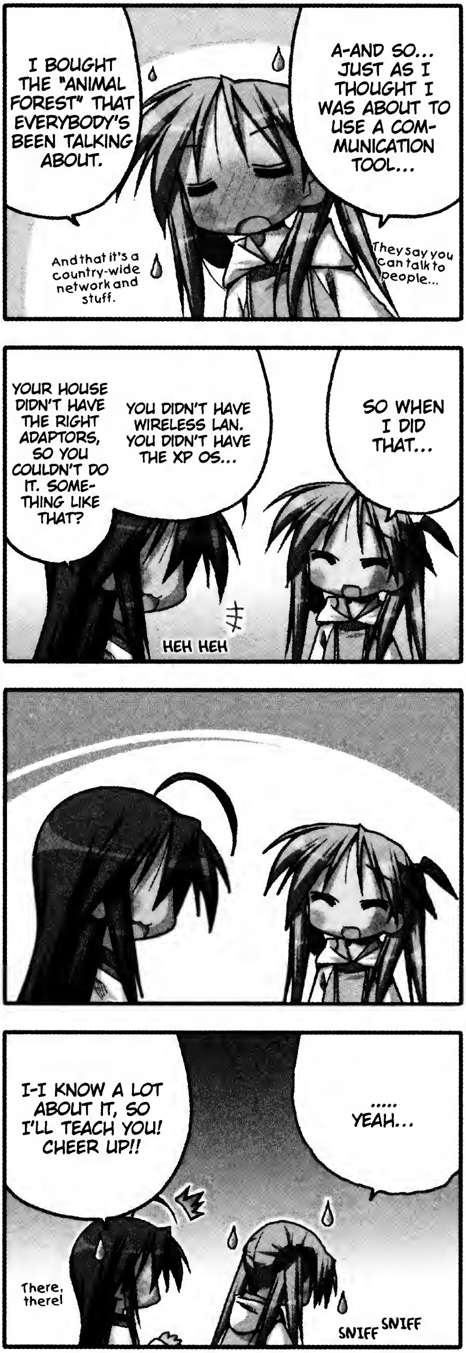
episode 74
lonely girl

● Comptiq, March 2006 issue

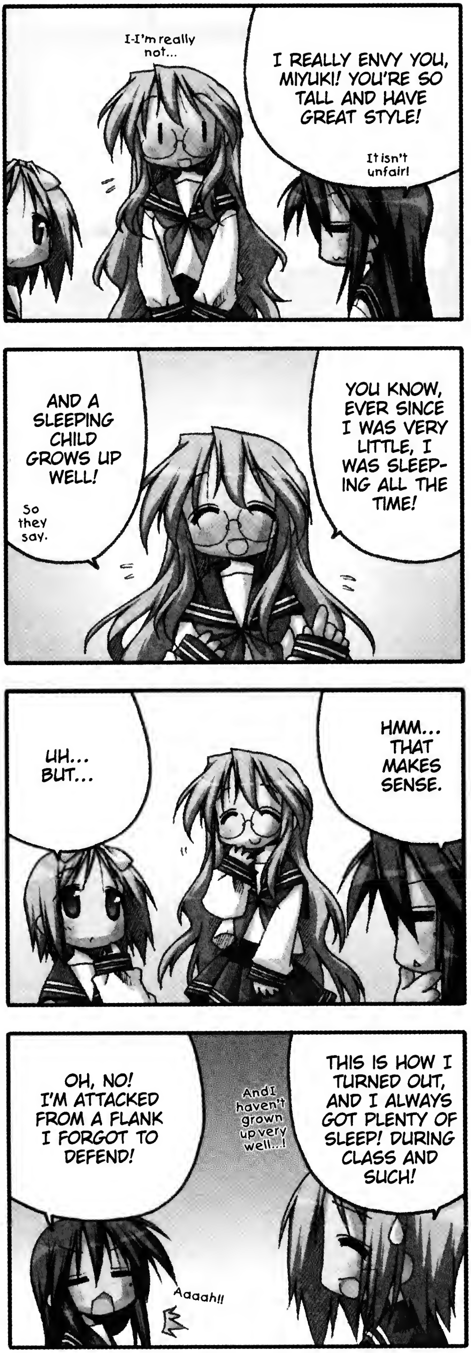
big room


I WONDER IF THE DS PICT-CHATS WILL GET ALL OVER THE COUNTRY LIKE THE WEB DID?
I wanted to do some brain training.
I BOUGHT A DS A LITTLE WHILE BACK...
I REMEMBERED THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO SIGN ON JUST LIKE NORMAL BACK AT THE EVENT, SO I INSTALLED MINE LIKE YOU DID WITHOUT CHECKING THE MANUAL...
BUT EVEN THOUGH I SIGNED ON, NOBODY WAS ON THE NETWORK!
I WAITED UNTIL LATE IN THE NIGHT, AND STILL NOBODY WAS SIGNING ON!
SO FOR A WHILE, I WAS JUST WRITING MESSAGES ALL BY MYSELF!
It was only later that I read the manual and understood.
Like, "Helloo, helloo, hello..."
Or, "Is anybody out there...?"
WOW! KAGAMI, YOU ARE ONE LONELY GIRL!
Little lonely girl Kagami is so moe!
HEH HEH
O-OH, SHUT UP!!

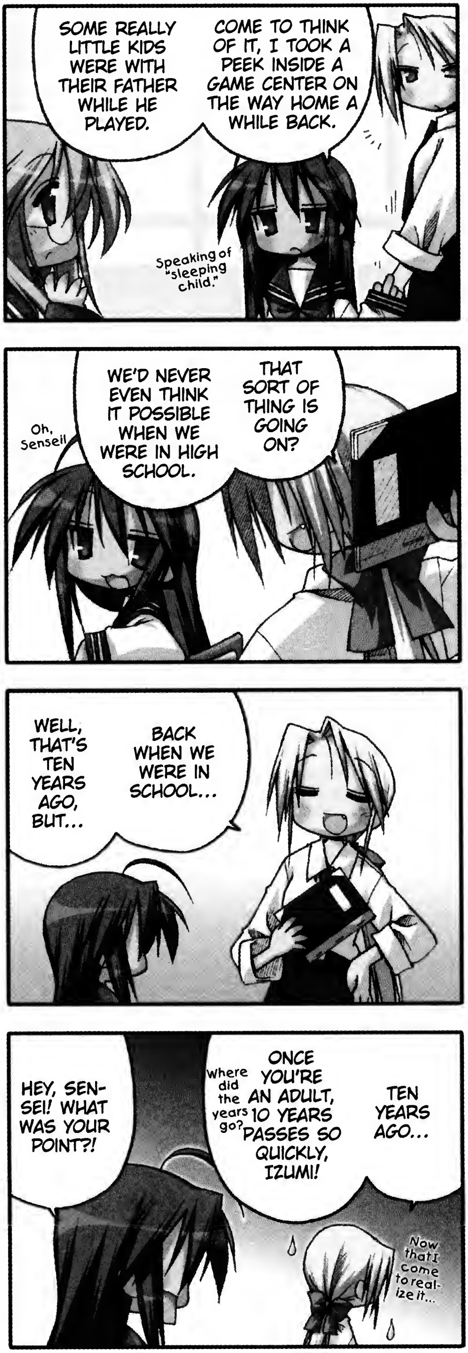
that type of attitude


A-AND SO... JUST AS I THOUGHT I WAS ABOUT TO USE A COMMUNICATION TOOL...
They say you can talk to people...
I BOUGHT THE "ANIMAL FOREST" THAT EVERYBODY'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT.
And that it's a country-wide network and stuff.
SO WHEN I DID THAT...
YOU DIDN'T HAVE WIRELESS LAN. YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE XP OS...
YOUR HOUSE DIDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT ADAPTORS, SO YOU COULDN'T DO IT. SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
HEH HEH
..... YEAH...
I-I KNOW A LOT ABOUT IT, SO I'LL TEACH YOU! CHEER UP!!
SNIFF SNIFF
There, there!

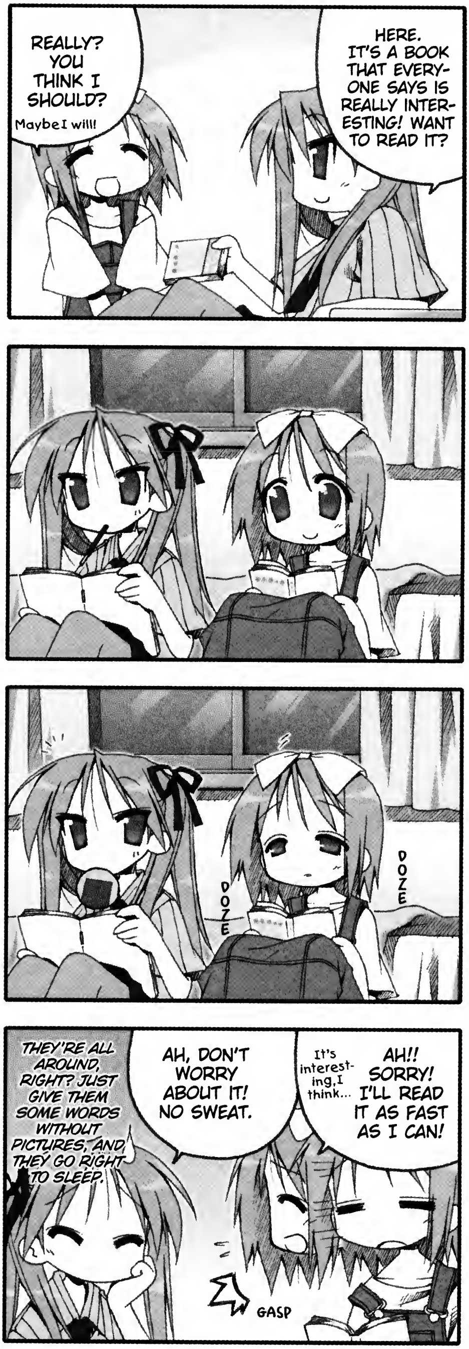
grow big and strong


I REALLY ENVY YOU, MIYUKI! YOU'RE SO TALL AND HAVE GREAT STYLE!
It isn't unfair!
I-I'm really not...
YOU KNOW, EVER SINCE I WAS VERY LITTLE, I WAS SLEEPING ALL THE TIME!
AND A SLEEPING CHILD GROWS UP WELL!
So they say.
HMM... THAT MAKES SENSE.
UH... BUT...
THIS IS HOW I TURNED OUT, AND I ALWAYS GOT PLENTY OF SLEEP! DURING CLASS AND SUCH!
And I haven't grown up very well...!
OH, NO! I'M ATTACKED FROM A FLANK I FORGOT TO DEFEND!
Aaaah!!

when you're past twenty


COME TO THINK OF IT, I TOOK A PEEK INSIDE A GAME CENTER ON THE WAY HOME A WHILE BACK.
SOME REALLY LITTLE KIDS WERE WITH THEIR FATHER WHILE HE PLAYED.
Speaking of "sleeping child."
THAT SORT OF THING IS GOING ON?
WE'D NEVER EVEN THINK IT POSSIBLE WHEN WE WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL.
Oh, Sensei!
BACK WHEN WE WERE IN SCHOOL...
WELL, THAT'S TEN YEARS AGO, BUT...
TEN YEARS AGO...
Now that I come to realize it...
ONCE YOU'RE AN ADULT, 10 YEARS PASSES SO QUICKLY, IZUMI!
Where did the years go?
HEY, SENSEI! WHAT WAS YOUR POINT?!

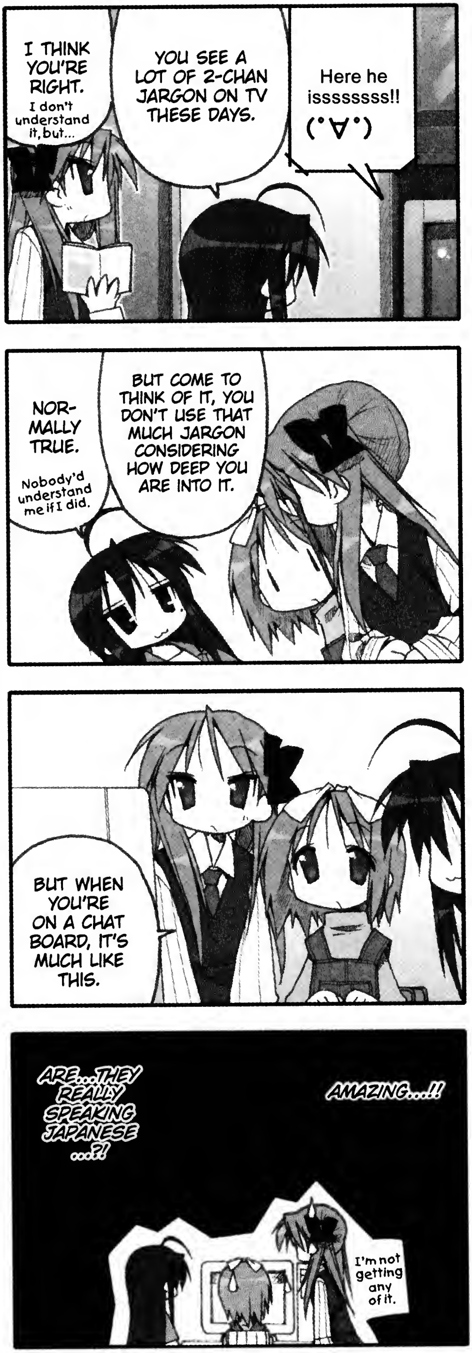
pavlov


HERE. IT'S A BOOK THAT EVERYONE SAYS IS REALLY INTERESTING! WANT TO READ IT?
REALLY? YOU THINK I SHOULD?
Maybe I will!
DOZE
DOZE
AH!! SORRY! I'LL READ IT AS FAST AS I CAN!
It's interesting, I think...
AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! NO SWEAT.
THEY'RE ALL AROUND, RIGHT? JUST GIVE THEM SOME WORDS WITHOUT PICTURES, AND THEY GO RIGHT TO SLEEP.
GASP

● **From Dragon Magazine, December 2005 issue**

I only read the newspaper for the TV listings and the 4-panel comics. Am I the only one who does that...?

cross-cultural communication

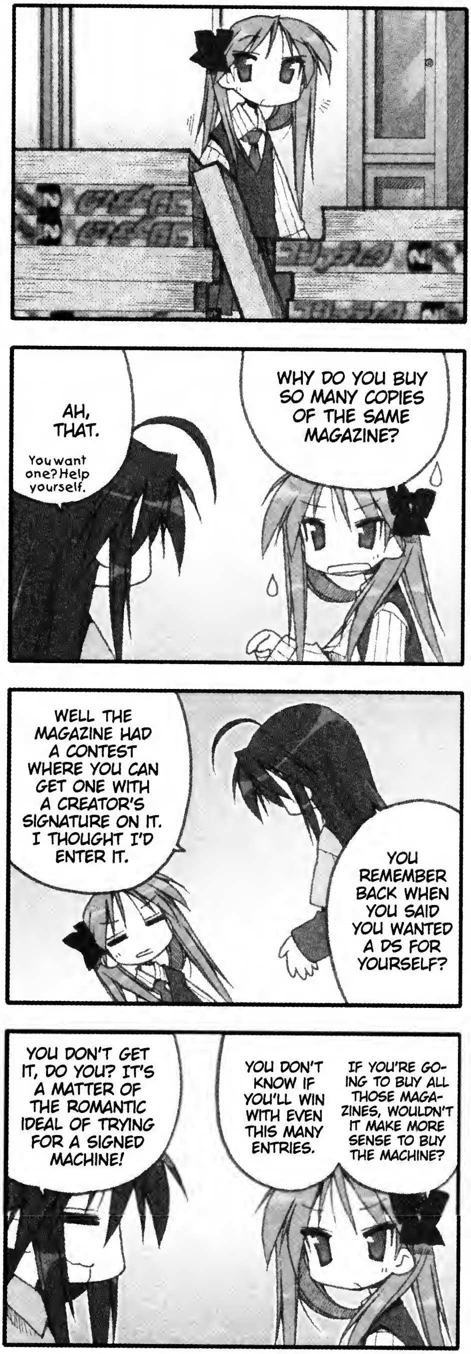

Here he issssssss!! (ﾟ∀ﾟ)
YOU SEE A LOT OF 2-CHAN JARGON ON TV THESE DAYS.
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.
I don't understand it, but...
BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU DON'T USE THAT MUCH JARGON CONSIDERING HOW DEEP YOU ARE INTO IT.
NORMALLY TRUE.
Nobody'd understand me if I did.
BUT WHEN YOU'RE ON A CHAT BOARD, IT'S MUCH LIKE THIS.
AMAZING...!!
ARE...THEY REALLY SPEAKING JAPANESE...?!
I'm not getting any of it.

Lucky☆Star

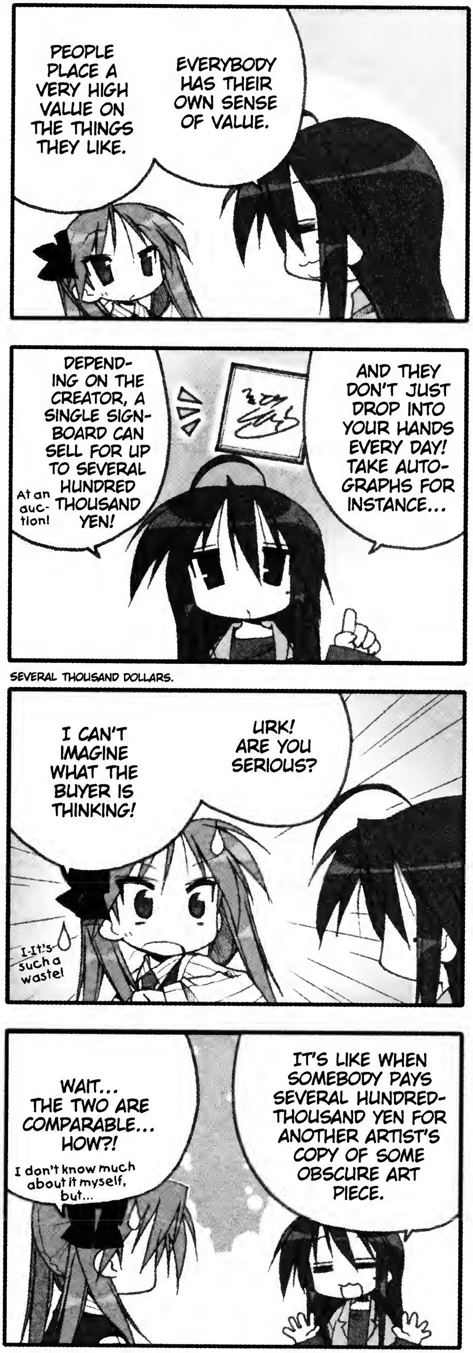
episode 75
voice of the heart

● Comptiq, March 2006 issue

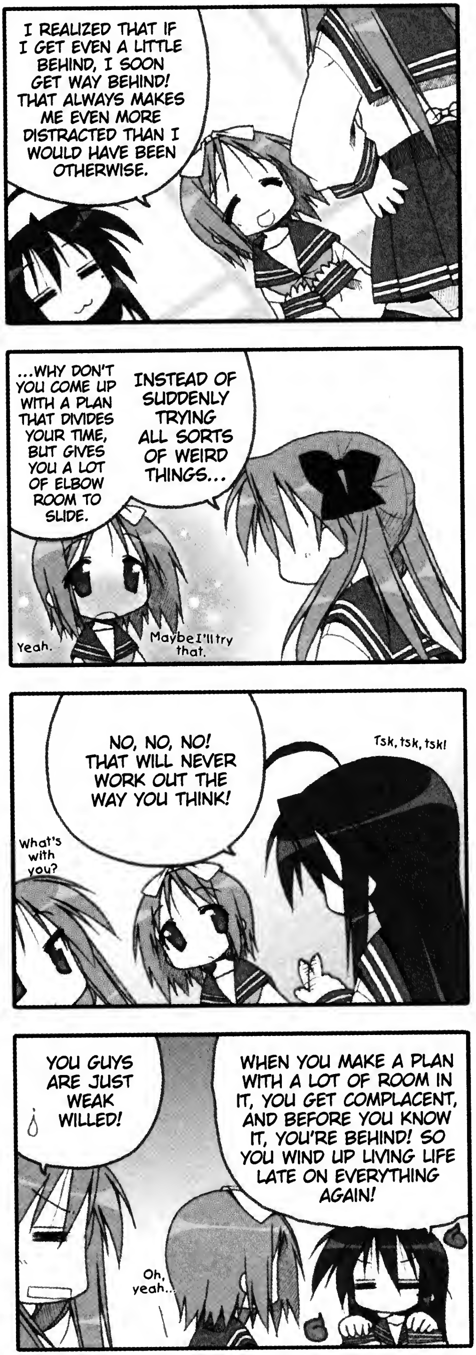
added value


WHY DO YOU BUY SO MANY COPIES OF THE SAME MAGAZINE?
AH, THAT.
You want one? Help yourself.
WELL THE MAGAZINE HAD A CONTEST WHERE YOU CAN GET ONE WITH A CREATOR'S SIGNATURE ON IT. I THOUGHT I'D ENTER IT.
YOU REMEMBER BACK WHEN YOU SAID YOU WANTED A DS FOR YOURSELF?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY ALL THOSE MAGAZINES, WOULDN'T IT MAKE MORE SENSE TO BUY THE MACHINE?
YOU DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL WIN WITH EVEN THIS MANY ENTRIES.
YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU? IT'S A MATTER OF THE ROMANTIC IDEAL OF TRYING FOR A SIGNED MACHINE!

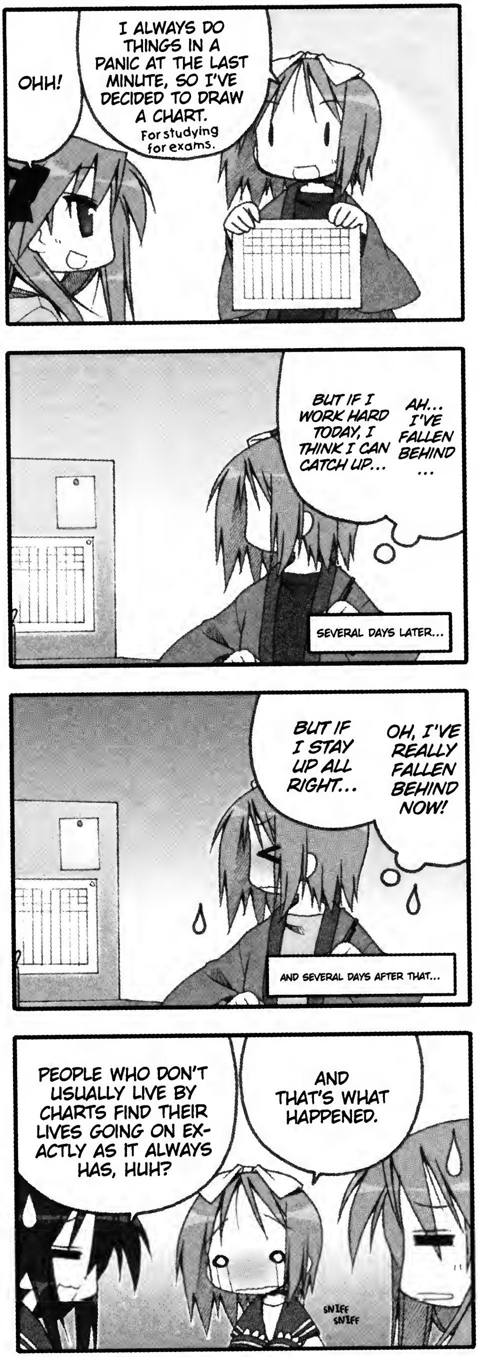
sense of value


EVERYBODY HAS THEIR OWN SENSE OF VALUE.
PEOPLE PLACE A VERY HIGH VALUE ON THE THINGS THEY LIKE.
DEPENDING ON THE CREATOR, A SINGLE SIGNBOARD CAN SELL FOR UP TO SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN!
At an auction!
AND THEY DON'T JUST DROP INTO YOUR HANDS EVERY DAY! TAKE AUTOGRAPHS FOR INSTANCE...
SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS.
URK! ARE YOU SERIOUS?
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT THE BUYER IS THINKING!
I-It's such a waste!
IT'S LIKE WHEN SOMEBODY PAYS SEVERAL HUNDRED-THOUSAND YEN FOR ANOTHER ARTIST'S COPY OF SOME OBSCURE ART PIECE.
WAIT... THE TWO ARE COMPARABLE... HOW?!
I don't know much about it myself, but...

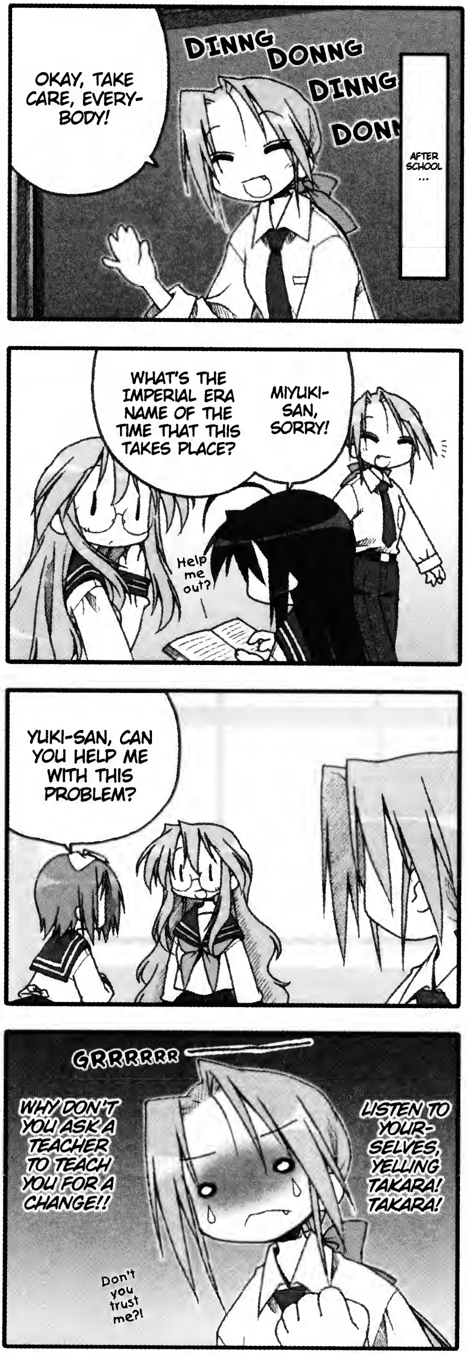
put out the fires you can put out


I REALIZED THAT IF I GET EVEN A LITTLE BEHIND, I SOON GET WAY BEHIND! THAT ALWAYS MAKES ME EVEN MORE DISTRACTED THAN I WOULD HAVE BEEN OTHERWISE.
INSTEAD OF SUDDENLY TRYING ALL SORTS OF WEIRD THINGS...
...WHY DON'T YOU COME UP WITH A PLAN THAT DIVIDES YOUR TIME, BUT GIVES YOU A LOT OF ELBOW ROOM TO SLIDE.
Maybe I'll try that.
Yeah.
Tsk, tsk, tsk!
NO, NO, NO! THAT WILL NEVER WORK OUT THE WAY YOU THINK!
What's with you?
WHEN YOU MAKE A PLAN WITH A LOT OF ROOM IN IT, YOU GET COMPLACENT, AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'RE BEHIND! SO YOU WIND UP LIVING LIFE LATE ON EVERYTHING AGAIN!
Oh, yeah...
YOU GUYS ARE JUST WEAK WILLED!

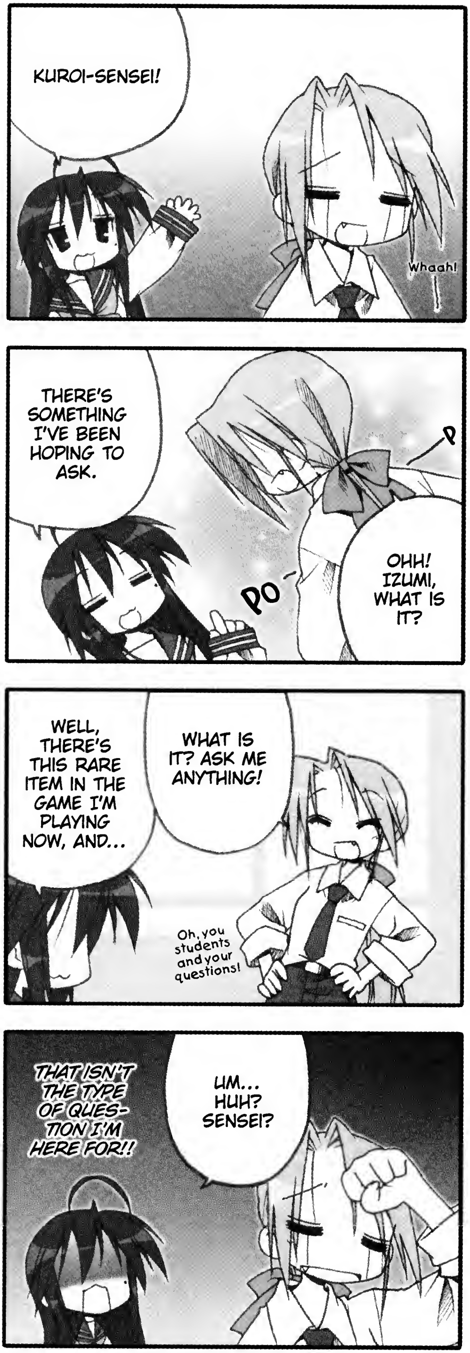
in a way, just as planned


I ALWAYS DO THINGS IN A PANIC AT THE LAST MINUTE, SO I'VE DECIDED TO DRAW A CHART.
For studying for exams.
OHH!
AH... I'VE FALLEN BEHIND...
BUT IF I WORK HARD TODAY, I THINK I CAN CATCH UP...
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
OH, I'VE REALLY FALLEN BEHIND NOW!
BUT IF I STAY UP ALL RIGHT...
AND SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THAT...
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
PEOPLE WHO DON'T USUALLY LIVE BY CHARTS FIND THEIR LIVES GOING ON EXACTLY AS IT ALWAYS HAS, HUH?
SNIFF SNIFF

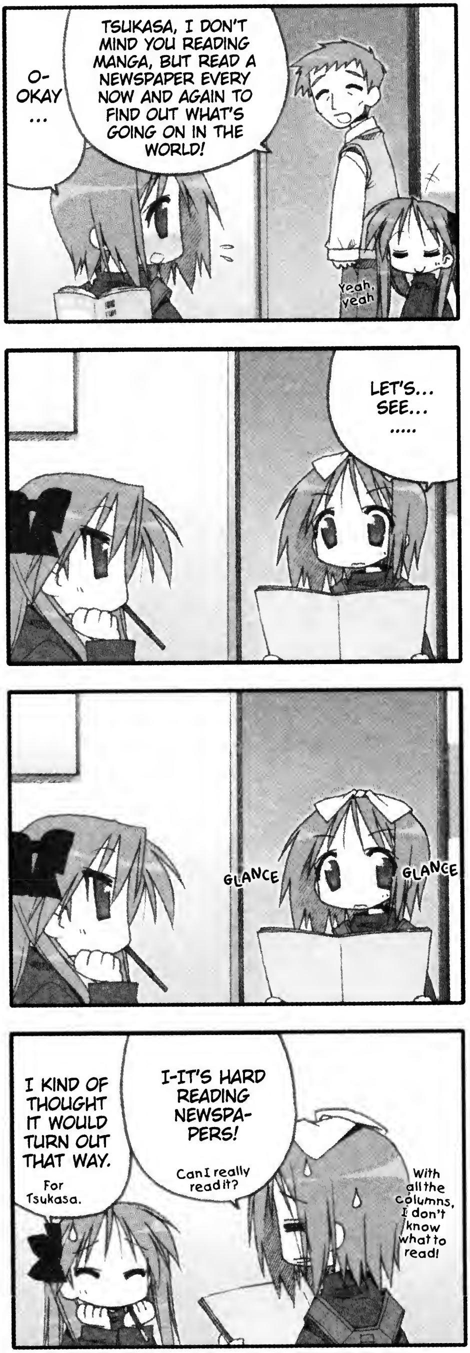
i'm right here


DINNG DONNG DINNG DONN
AFTER SCHOOL...
OKAY, TAKE CARE, EVERY-BODY!
MIYUKI-SAN, SORRY!
WHAT'S THE IMPERIAL ERA NAME OF THE TIME THAT THIS TAKES PLACE?
Help me out?
YUKI-SAN, CAN YOU HELP ME WITH THIS PROBLEM?
LISTEN TO YOURSELVES, YELLING TAKARA! TAKARA!
GRRRRRR
WHY DON'T YOU ASK A TEACHER TO TEACH YOU FOR A CHANGE!!
Don't you trust me?!

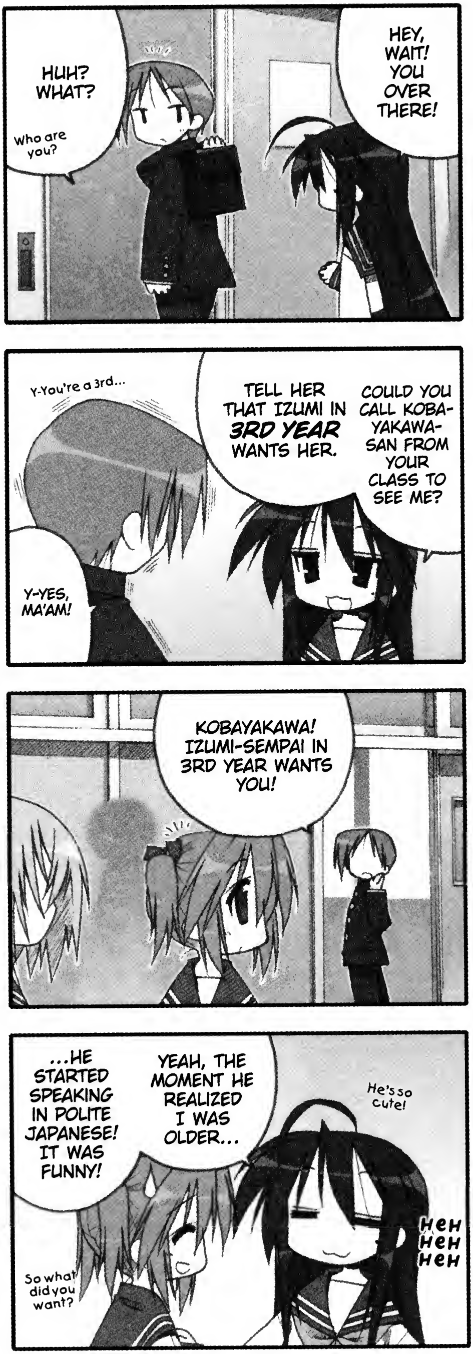
teach me, sensei!


Whaah!
KUROI-SENSEI!
P
OHH! IZUMI, WHAT IS IT?
PO
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN HOPING TO ASK.
Oh, you students and your questions!
WHAT IS IT? ASK ME ANYTHING!
WELL, THERE'S THIS RARE ITEM IN THE GAME I'M PLAYING NOW, AND...
UM... HUH? SENSEI?
THAT ISN'T THE TYPE OF QUESTION I'M HERE FOR!!

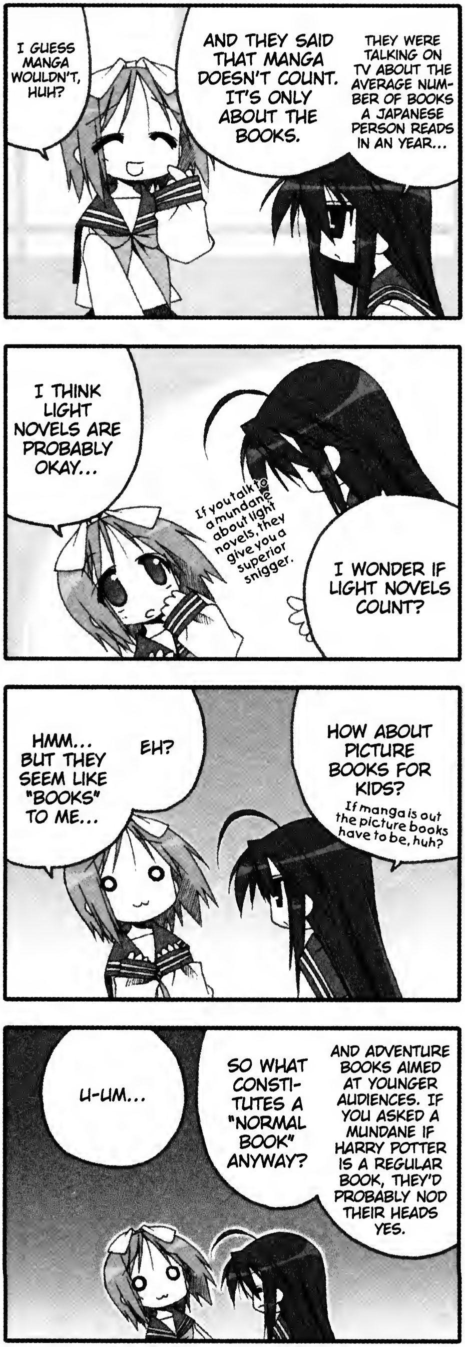
tv commentary is too shallow


TSUKASA, I DON'T MIND YOU READING MANGA, BUT READ A NEWSPAPER EVERY NOW AND AGAIN TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE WORLD!
O-OKAY...
Yeah, yeah
LET'S... SEE... .....
GLANCE
GLANCE
I-IT'S HARD READING NEWSPAPERS!
Can I really read it?
With all the columns, I don't know what to read!
I KIND OF THOUGHT IT WOULD TURN OUT THAT WAY.
For Tsukasa.

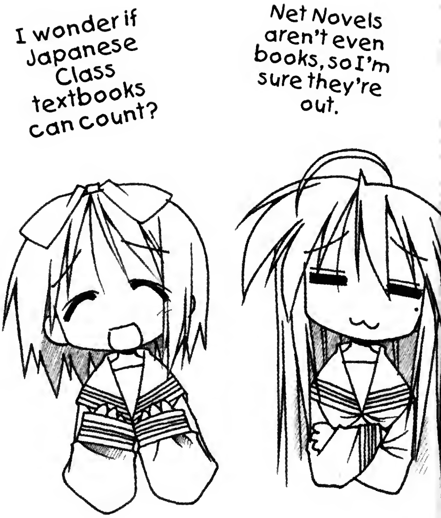
the vertical society


HEY, WAIT! YOU OVER THERE!
HUH? WHAT?
Who are you?
COULD YOU CALL KOBAYAKAWA-SAN FROM YOUR CLASS TO SEE ME?
TELL HER THAT IZUMI IN 3RD YEAR WANTS HER.
Y-You're a 3rd...
Y-YES, MA'AM!
KOBAYAKAWA! IZUMI-SEMPAI IN 3RD YEAR WANTS YOU!
He's so cute!
HEH HEH HEH
YEAH, THE MOMENT HE REALIZED I WAS OLDER...
...HE STARTED SPEAKING IN POLITE JAPANESE! IT WAS FUNNY!
So what did you want?

bookies


THEY WERE TALKING ON TV ABOUT THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF BOOKS A JAPANESE PERSON READS IN AN YEAR...
AND THEY SAID THAT MANGA DOESN'T COUNT. IT'S ONLY ABOUT THE BOOKS.
I GUESS MANGA WOULDN'T, HUH?
I WONDER IF LIGHT NOVELS COUNT?
If you talk to a mundane about light novels, they give you a superior snigger.
I THINK LIGHT NOVELS ARE PROBABLY OKAY...
HOW ABOUT PICTURE BOOKS FOR KIDS?
If manga is out the picture books have to be, huh?
EH?
HMM... BUT THEY SEEM LIKE "BOOKS" TO ME...
AND ADVENTURE BOOKS AIMED AT YOUNGER AUDIENCES. IF YOU ASKED A MUNDANE IF HARRY POTTER IS A REGULAR BOOK, THEY'D PROBABLY NOD THEIR HEADS YES.
SO WHAT CONSTITUTES A "NORMAL BOOK" ANYWAY?
U-UM...

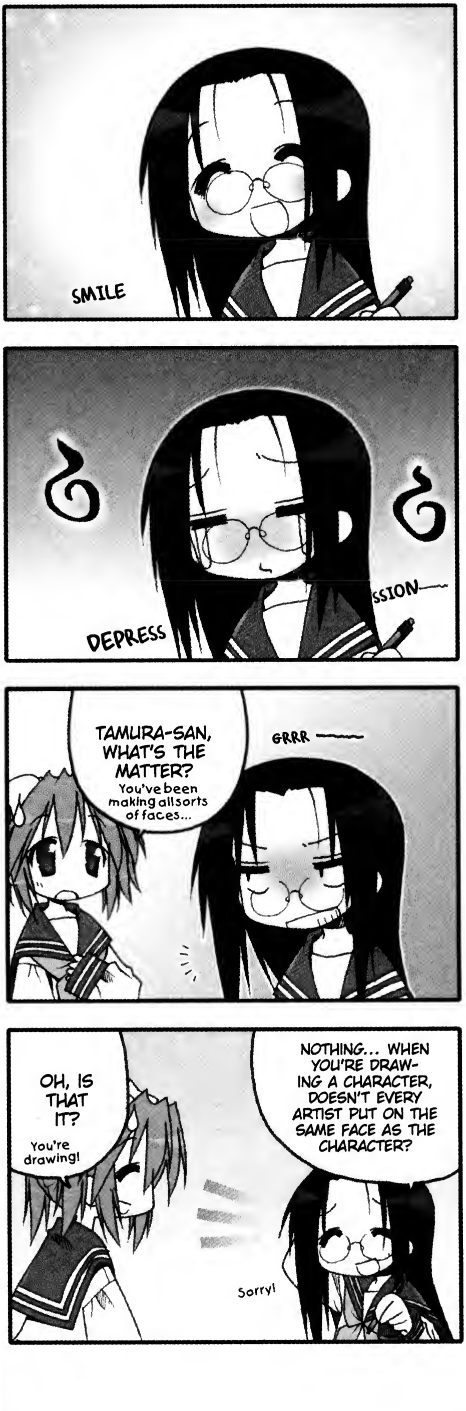
● **Dragon Magazine, January 2006 issue**


Net Novels aren't even books, so I'm sure they're out.
I wonder if Japanese Class textbooks can count?

Lucky☆Star

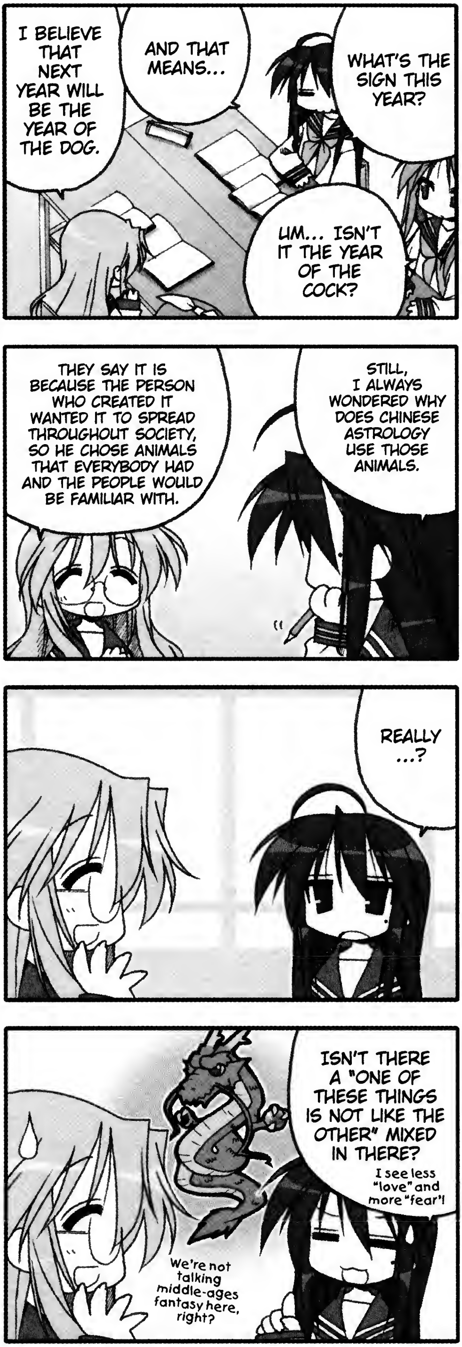
episode 76
the instant of change

alter ego

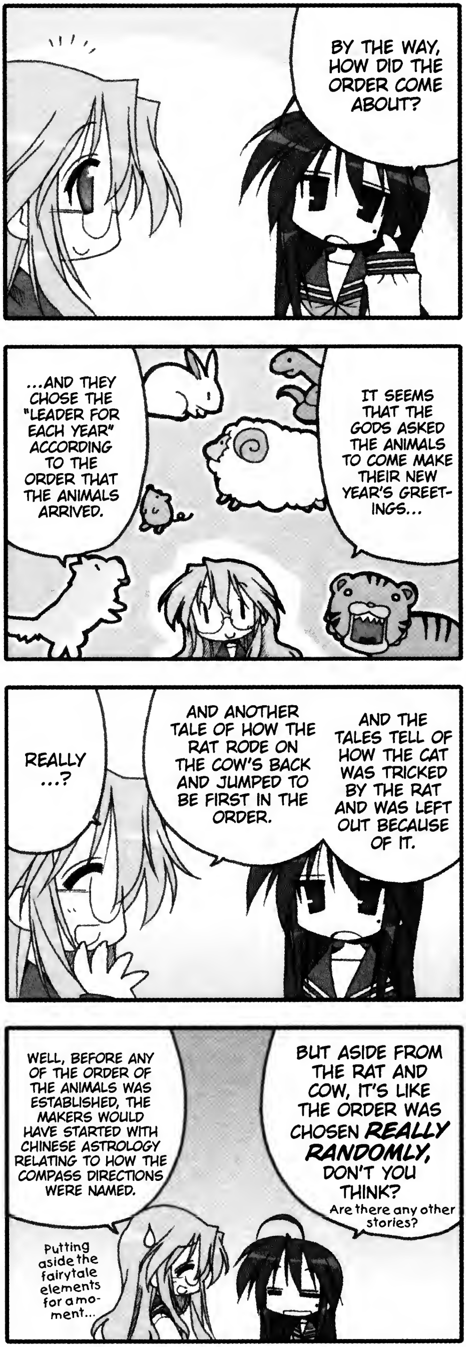

SMILE
DEPRESS
SSION
GRRR
TAMURA-SAN, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
You've been making all sorts of faces...
NOTHING... WHEN YOU'RE DRAWING A CHARACTER, DOESN'T EVERY ARTIST PUT ON THE SAME FACE AS THE CHARACTER?
Sorry!
OH, IS THAT IT?
You're drawing!

●Shonen Ace, March 2006 issue

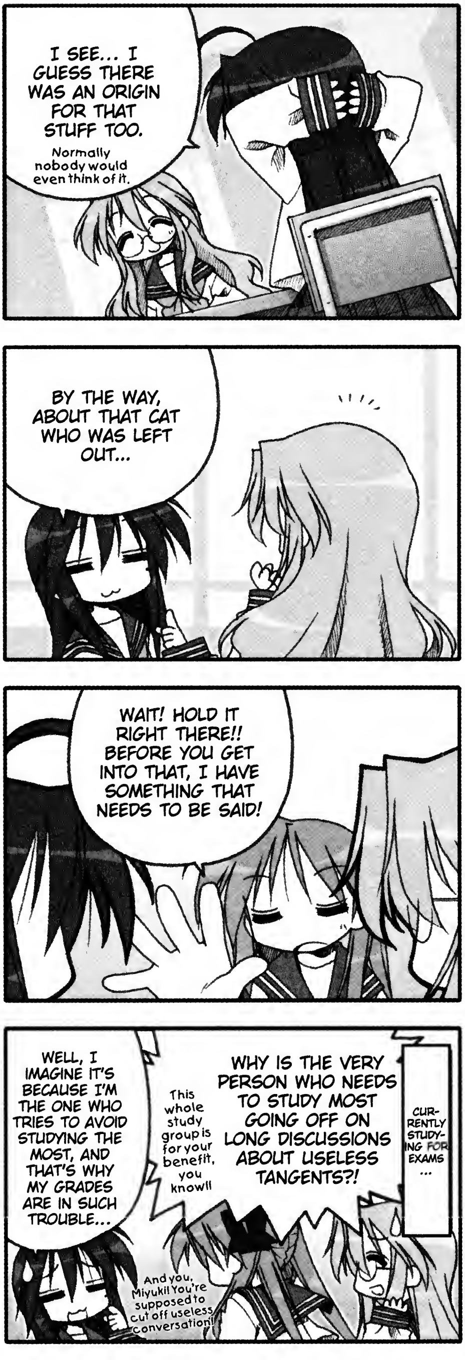
hard


WHAT'S THE SIGN THIS YEAR?
UM... ISN'T IT THE YEAR OF THE COCK?
AND THAT MEANS...
I BELIEVE THAT NEXT YEAR WILL BE THE YEAR OF THE DOG.
STILL, I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY DOES CHINESE ASTROLOGY USE THOSE ANIMALS.
THEY SAY IT IS BECAUSE THE PERSON WHO CREATED IT WANTED IT TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT SOCIETY, SO HE CHOSE ANIMALS THAT EVERYBODY HAD AND THE PEOPLE WOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH.
REALLY ...?
ISN'T THERE A "ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER" MIXED IN THERE?
I see less "love" and more "fear"!
We're not talking middle-ages fantasy here, right?

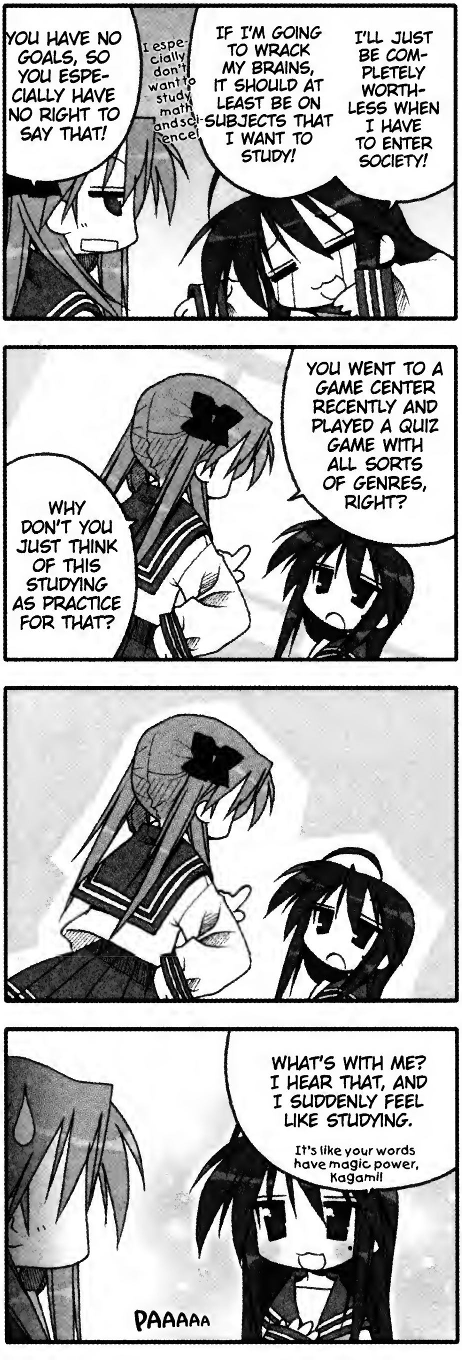
tacked on??


BY THE WAY, HOW DID THE ORDER COME ABOUT?
IT SEEMS THAT THE GODS ASKED THE ANIMALS TO COME MAKE THEIR NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS...
...AND THEY CHOSE THE "LEADER FOR EACH YEAR" ACCORDING TO THE ORDER THAT THE ANIMALS ARRIVED.
AND THE TALES TELL OF HOW THE CAT WAS TRICKED BY THE RAT AND WAS LEFT OUT BECAUSE OF IT.
AND ANOTHER TALE OF HOW THE RAT RODE ON THE COW'S BACK AND JUMPED TO BE FIRST IN THE ORDER.
REALLY ...?
BUT ASIDE FROM THE RAT AND COW, IT'S LIKE THE ORDER WAS CHOSEN *REALLY RANDOMLY,* DON'T YOU THINK?
Are there any other stories?
WELL, BEFORE ANY OF THE ORDER OF THE ANIMALS WAS ESTABLISHED, THE MAKERS WOULD HAVE STARTED WITH CHINESE ASTROLOGY RELATING TO HOW THE COMPASS DIRECTIONS WERE NAMED.
Putting aside the fairytale elements for a moment...

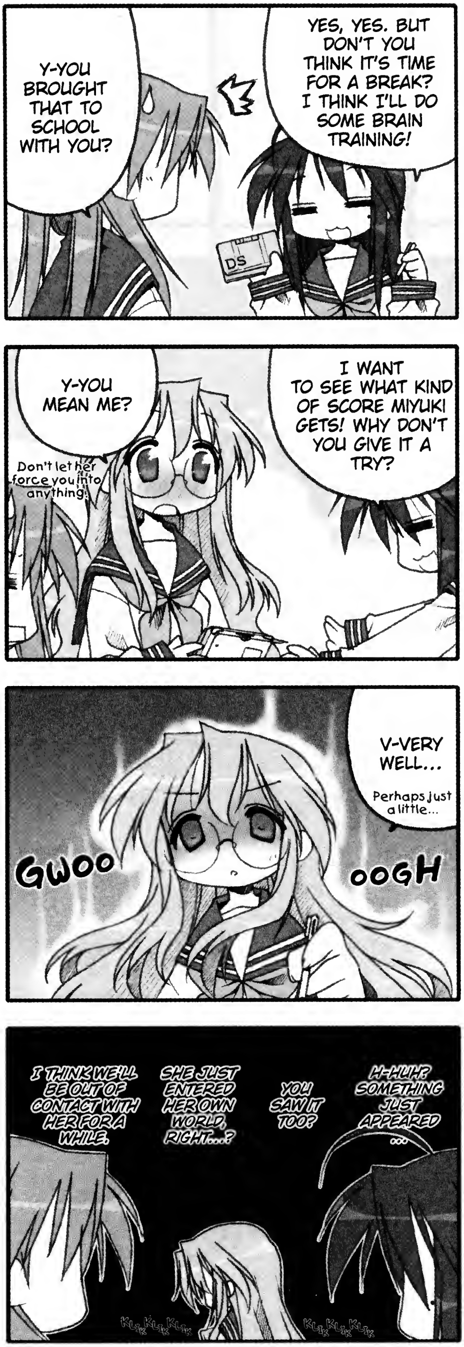
pulling


I SEE... I GUESS THERE WAS AN ORIGIN FOR THAT STUFF TOO.
Normally nobody would even think of it.
BY THE WAY, ABOUT THAT CAT WHO WAS LEFT OUT...
WAIT! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!! BEFORE YOU GET INTO THAT, I HAVE SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE SAID!
CURRENTLY STUDYING FOR EXAMS ...
WHY IS THE VERY PERSON WHO NEEDS TO STUDY MOST GOING OFF ON LONG DISCUSSIONS ABOUT USELESS TANGENTS?!
This whole study group is for your benefit, you know!
WELL, I IMAGINE IT'S BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO TRIES TO AVOID STUDYING THE MOST, AND THAT'S WHY MY GRADES ARE IN SUCH TROUBLE...
And you, Miyuki! You're supposed to cut off useless conversation!

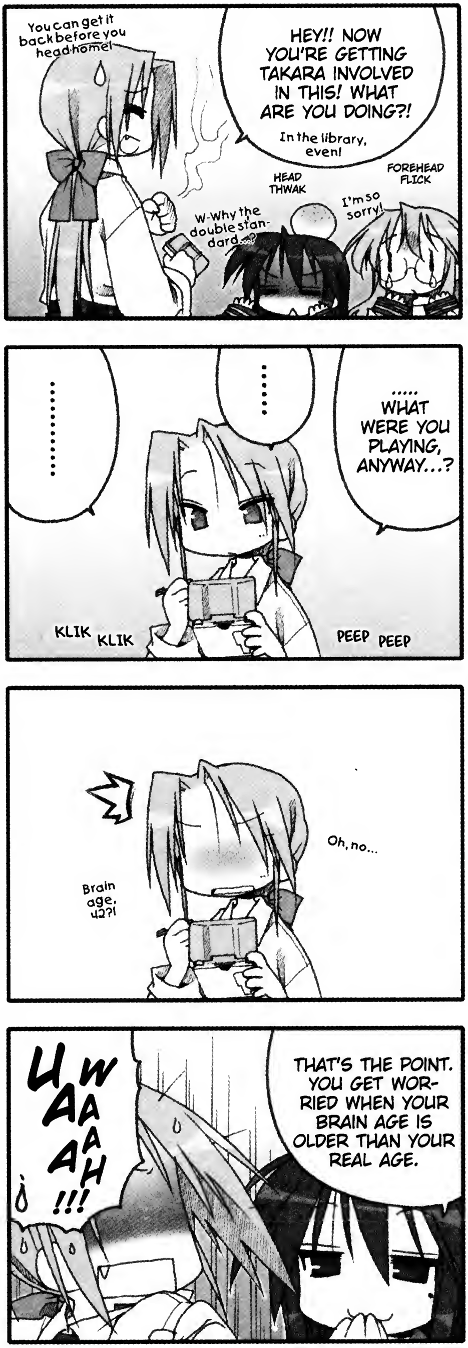
the magic academy


I'LL JUST BE COMPLETELY WORTHLESS WHEN I HAVE TO ENTER SOCIETY!
IF I'M GOING TO WRACK MY BRAINS, IT SHOULD AT LEAST BE ON SUBJECTS THAT I WANT TO STUDY!
I especially don't want to study math and science!
YOU HAVE NO GOALS, SO YOU ESPECIALLY HAVE NO RIGHT TO SAY THAT!
YOU WENT TO A GAME CENTER RECENTLY AND PLAYED A QUIZ GAME WITH ALL SORTS OF GENRES, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU JUST THINK OF THIS STUDYING AS PRACTICE FOR THAT?
WHAT'S WITH ME? I HEAR THAT, AND I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE STUDYING.
It's like your words have magic power, Kagami!
PAAAAA

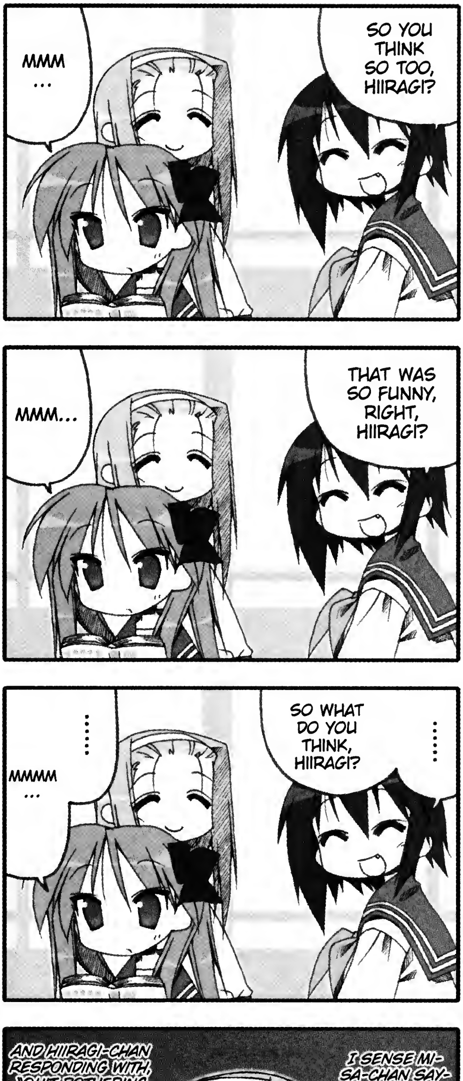
battle mode


Y-YOU BROUGHT THAT TO SCHOOL WITH YOU?
YES, YES. BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME FOR A BREAK? I THINK I'LL DO SOME BRAIN TRAINING!
DS
I WANT TO SEE WHAT KIND OF SCORE MIYUKI GETS! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A TRY?
Y-YOU MEAN ME?
Don't let her force you into anything!
V-VERY WELL... Perhaps just a little...
GWOO OOGH
H-HUH? SOMETHING JUST APPEARED...
YOU SAW IT TOO?
SHE JUST ENTERED HER OWN WORLD, RIGHT...?
I THINK WE'LL BE OUT OF CONTACT WITH HER FOR A WHILE.
KLIK KLIK KLIK
KLIK KLIK KLIK

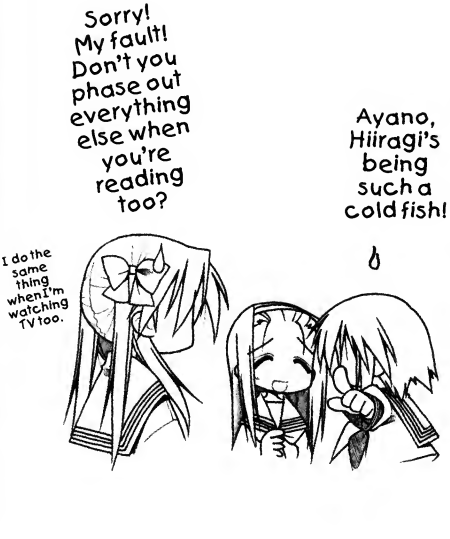
a casual shock


HEY!! NOW YOU'RE GETTING TAKARA INVOLVED IN THIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! In the library, even!
You can get it back before you head home!
FOREHEAD FLICK
I'm so sorry!
HEAD THWAK
W-Why the double standard...?
..... WHAT WERE YOU PLAYING, ANYWAY...?
......
....
PEEP PEEP
KLIK KLIK
Oh, no...
Brain age, 42?!
THAT'S THE POINT. YOU GET WORRIED WHEN YOUR BRAIN AGE IS OLDER THAN YOUR REAL AGE.
UWAAAAH!!!

meow meow, hiss hiss


SO YOU THINK SO TOO, HIIRAGI?
MMM ...
THAT WAS SO FUNNY, RIGHT, HIIRAGI?
MMM...
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK, HIIRAGI?
......
......
MMMM ...
I SENSE MI-SA-CHAN SAYING, "DON'T ANSWER WITH YOUR DUMB 'MMM'S!"
AND HIIRAGI-CHAN RESPONDING WITH, "QUIT BOTHERING ME WITH QUESTIONS WHILE I'M READING!" IT'S LIKE THE VOLTAGE IN THE ROOM IS RISING!
What'll I do?!

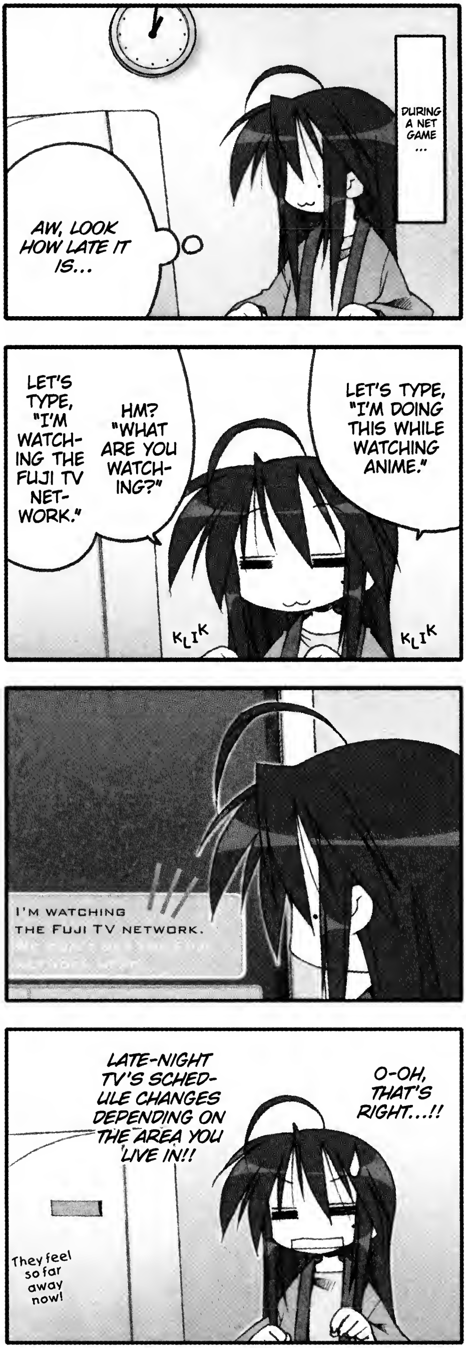
● **Dragon Magazine, February 2006 issue**


Ayano, Hiiragi's being such a cold fish!
Sorry! My fault! Don't you phase out everything else when you're reading too?
I do the same thing when I'm watching TV too.

Lucky☆Star

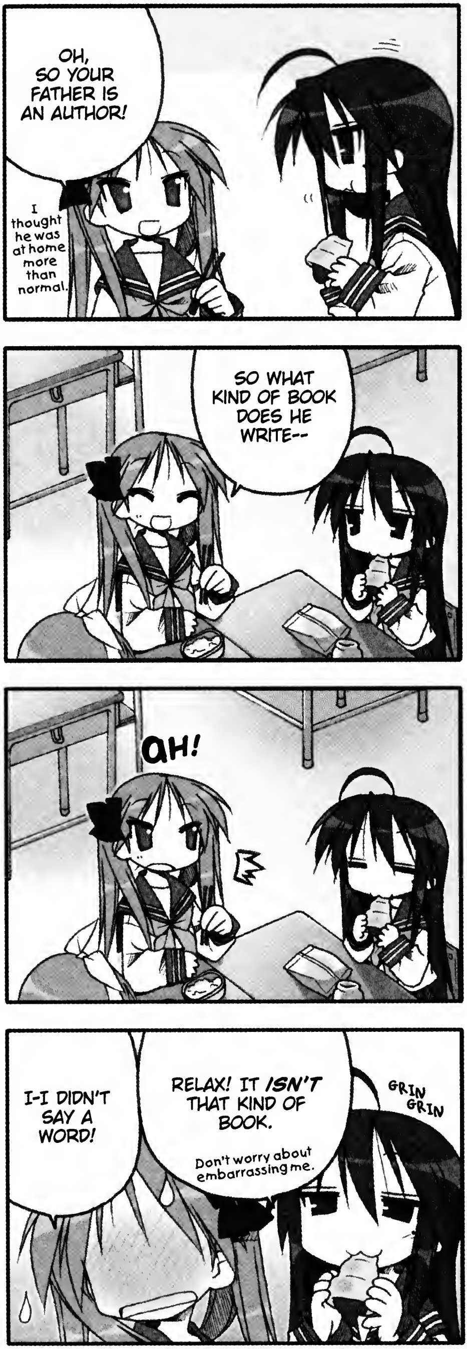
episode 77
desperate

with you but far away

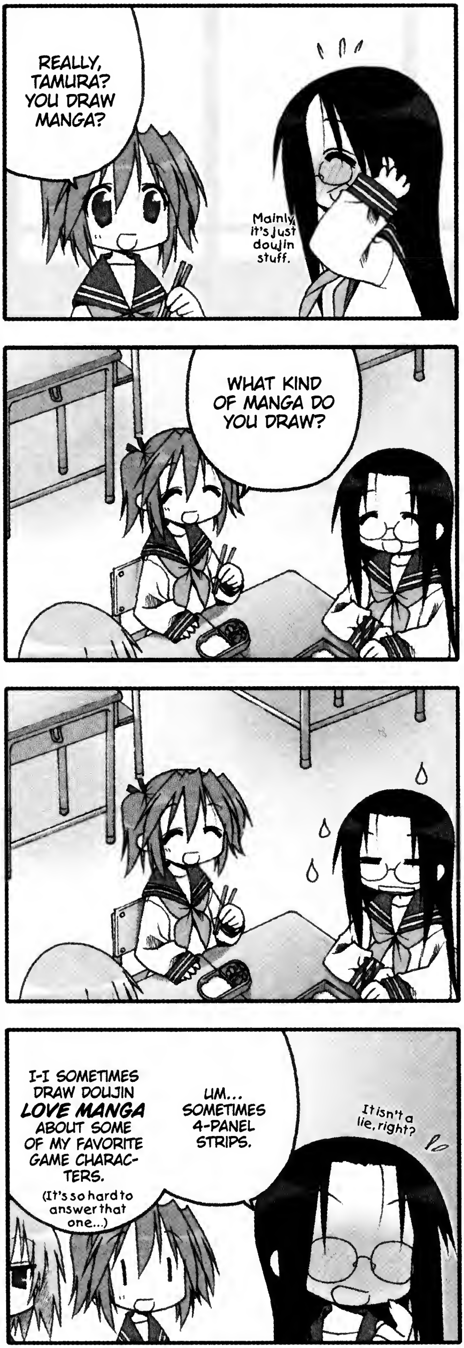

DURING A NET GAME ...
AW, LOOK HOW LATE IT IS...
LET'S TYPE, "I'M DOING THIS WHILE WATCHING ANIME."
HM? "WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?"
LET'S TYPE, "I'M WATCHING THE FUJI TV NETWORK."
KLIK
KLIK
I'M WATCHING THE FUJI TV NETWORK.
O-OH, THAT'S RIGHT...!!
LATE-NIGHT TV'S SCHEDULE CHANGES DEPENDING ON THE AREA YOU LIVE IN!!
They feel so far away now!

● Shonen Ace, April 2006 issue

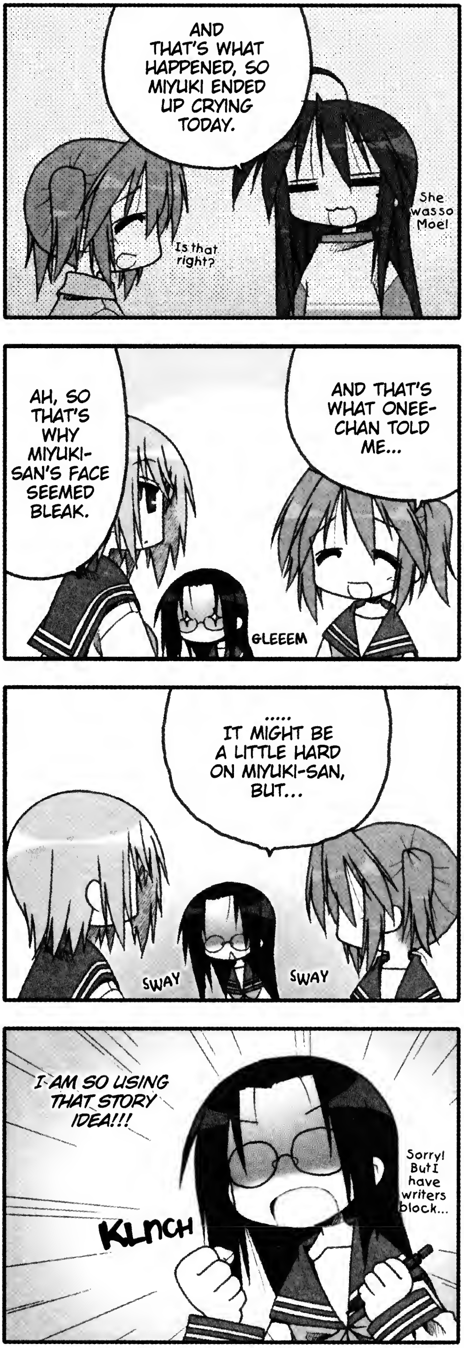
what? just say it!


OH, SO YOUR FATHER IS AN AUTHOR!
I thought he was at home more than normal.
SO WHAT KIND OF BOOK DOES HE WRITE--
AH!
GRIN GRIN
RELAX! IT *ISN'T* THAT KIND OF BOOK.
Don't worry about embarrassing me.
I-I DIDN'T SAY A WORD!

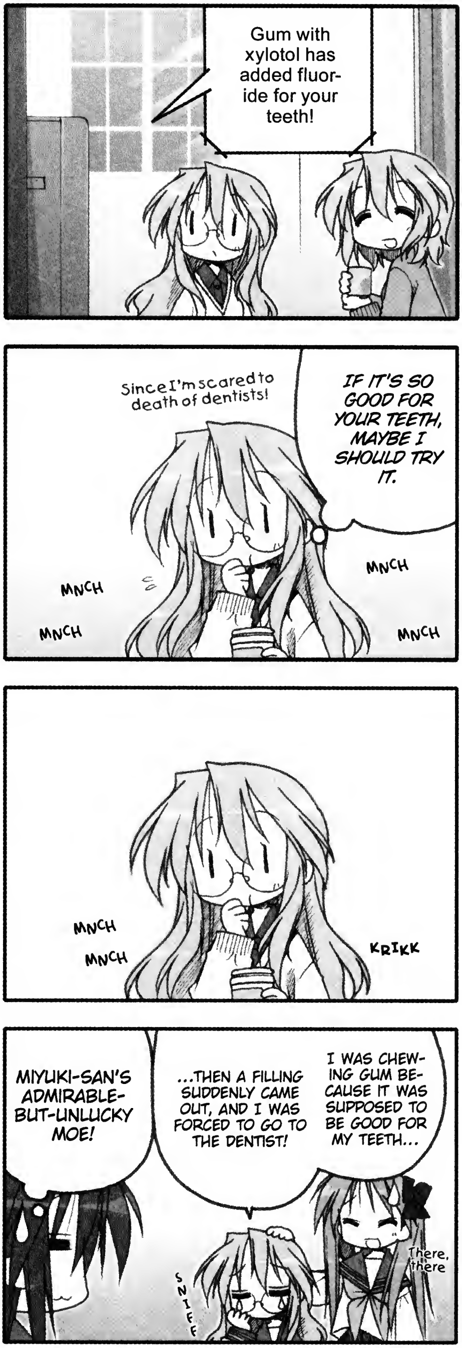
do me a favor and don't ask


REALLY, TAMURA? YOU DRAW MANGA?
Mainly, it's just doujin stuff.
WHAT KIND OF MANGA DO YOU DRAW?
It isn't a lie, right?
UM... SOMETIMES 4-PANEL STRIPS.
I-I SOMETIMES DRAW DOUJIN **LOVE MANGA** ABOUT SOME OF MY FAVORITE GAME CHARACTERS.
(It's so hard to answer that one...)

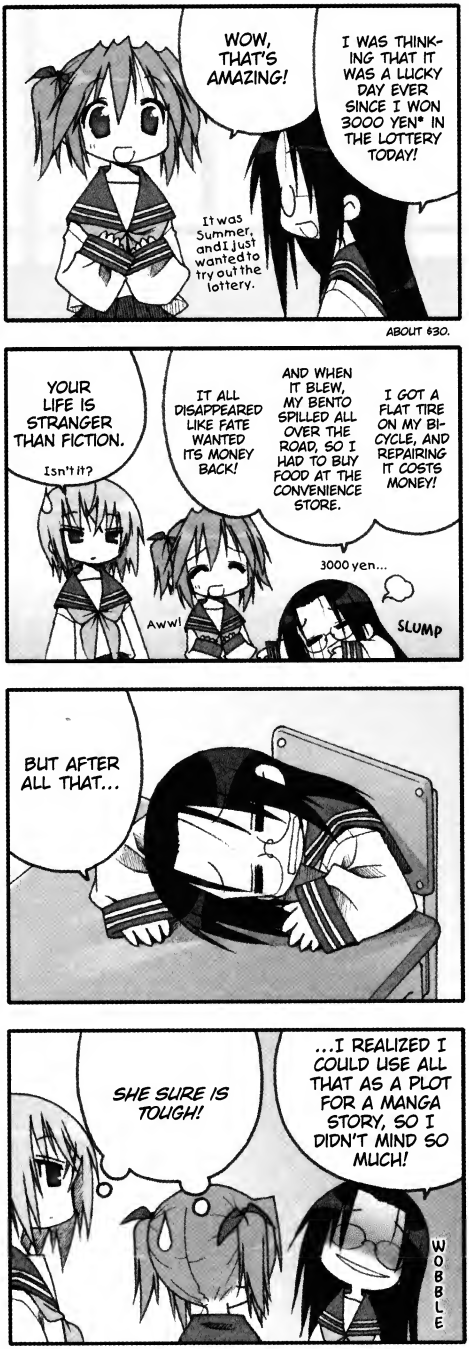
no way out


AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, SO MIYUKI ENDED UP CRYING TODAY.
She was so Moe!
Is that right?
AND THAT'S WHAT ONEE-CHAN TOLD ME...
AH, SO THAT'S WHY MIYUKI-SAN'S FACE SEEMED BLEAK.
GLEEEM
..... IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE HARD ON MIYUKI-SAN, BUT...
SWAY
SWAY
I AM SO USING THAT STORY IDEA!!!
Sorry! But I have writers block...
KLNCH

opposite side

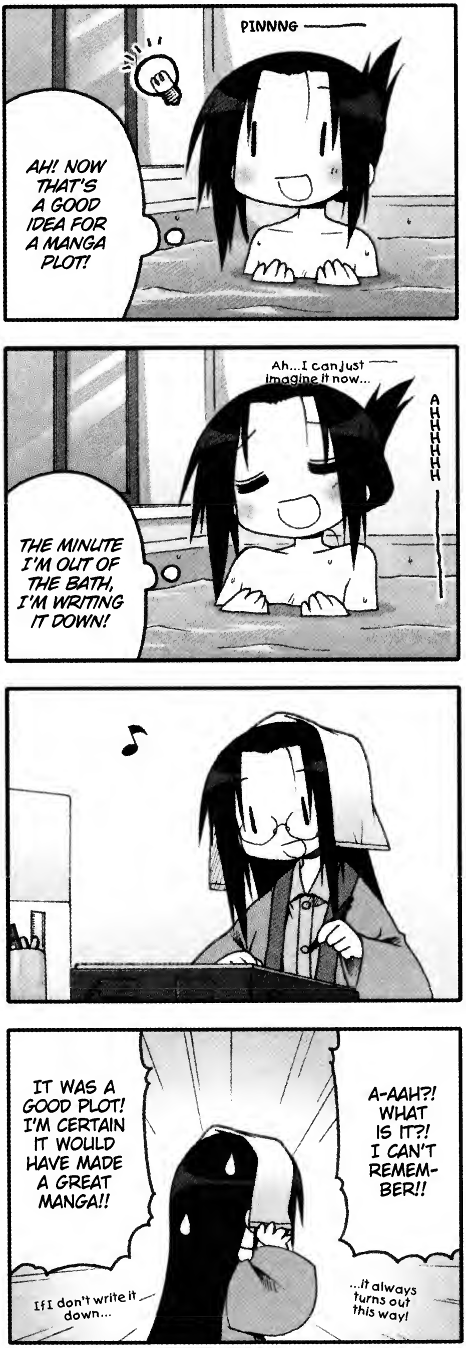

Gum with xylotol has added fluoride for your teeth!
IF IT'S SO GOOD FOR YOUR TEETH, MAYBE I SHOULD TRY IT.
Since I'm scared to death of dentists!
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH
KRIKK
I WAS CHEWING GUM BECAUSE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD FOR MY TEETH...
...THEN A FILLING SUDDENLY CAME OUT, AND I WAS FORCED TO GO TO THE DENTIST!
MIYUKI-SAN'S ADMIRABLE-BUT-UNLUCKY MOE!
There, there
SNIFF

not for free

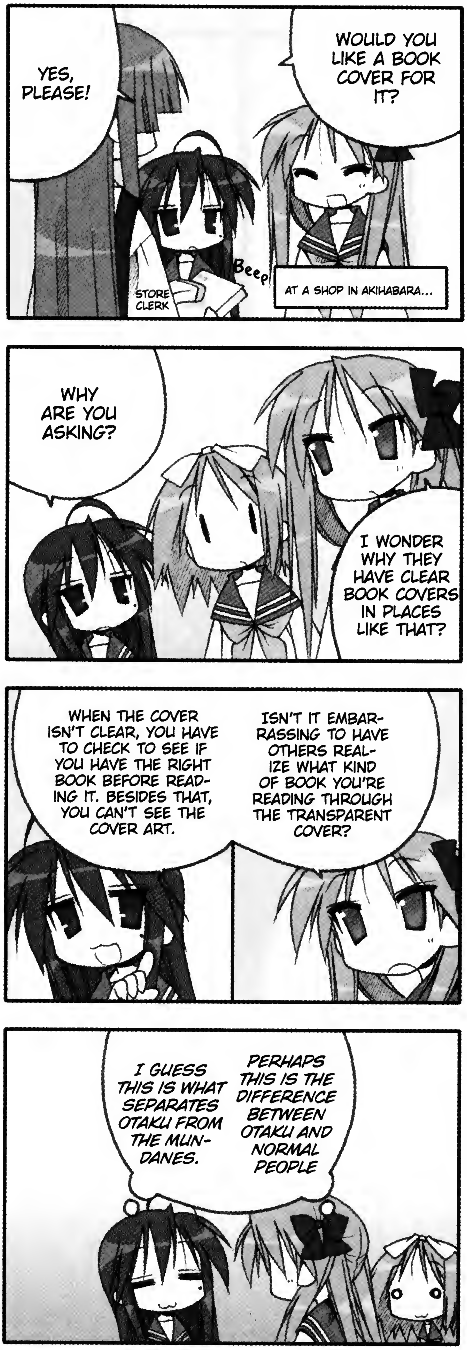

I WAS THINKING THAT IT WAS A LUCKY DAY EVER SINCE I WON 3000 YEN* IN THE LOTTERY TODAY!
WOW, THAT'S AMAZING!
It was Summer, and I just wanted to try out the lottery.
I GOT A FLAT TIRE ON MY BICYCLE, AND REPAIRING IT COSTS MONEY!
AND WHEN IT BLEW, MY BENTO SPILLED ALL OVER THE ROAD, SO I HAD TO BUY FOOD AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
IT ALL DISAPPEARED LIKE FATE WANTED ITS MONEY BACK!
YOUR LIFE IS STRANGER THAN FICTION.
Isn't it?
3000 yen...
SLUMP
Aww!
BUT AFTER ALL THAT...
...I REALIZED I COULD USE ALL THAT AS A PLOT FOR A MANGA STORY, SO I DIDN'T MIND SO MUCH!
WOBBLE
SHE SURE IS TOUGH!

*ABOUT $30.

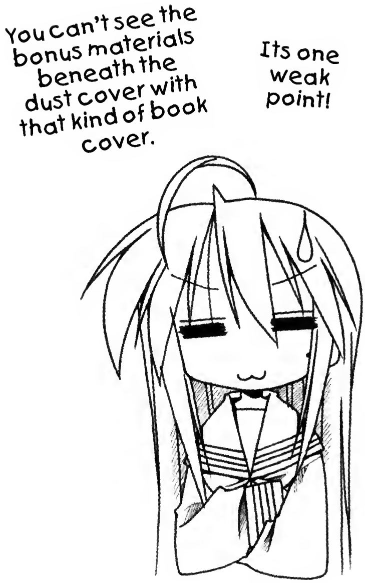
and one buries treasure


PINNNG
AH! NOW THAT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR A MANGA PLOT!
Ah...I can just imagine it now...
AHHHHHH
THE MINUTE I'M OUT OF THE BATH, I'M WRITING IT DOWN!
A-AAH?! WHAT IS IT?! I CAN'T REMEMBER!!
IT WAS A GOOD PLOT! I'M CERTAIN IT WOULD HAVE MADE A GREAT MANGA!!
...it always turns out this way!
If I don't write it down...

feeling that you exist


AT A SHOP IN AKIHABARA...
WOULD YOU LIKE A BOOK COVER FOR IT?
YES, PLEASE!
Beep
STORE CLERK
I WONDER WHY THEY HAVE CLEAR BOOK COVERS IN PLACES LIKE THAT?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING?
ISN'T IT EMBARRASSING TO HAVE OTHERS REALIZE WHAT KIND OF BOOK YOU'RE READING THROUGH THE TRANSPARENT COVER?
WHEN THE COVER ISN'T CLEAR, YOU HAVE TO CHECK TO SEE IF YOU HAVE THE RIGHT BOOK BEFORE READING IT. BESIDES THAT, YOU CAN'T SEE THE COVER ART.
PERHAPS THIS IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OTAKU AND NORMAL PEOPLE
I GUESS THIS IS WHAT SEPARATES OTAKU FROM THE MUNDANES.

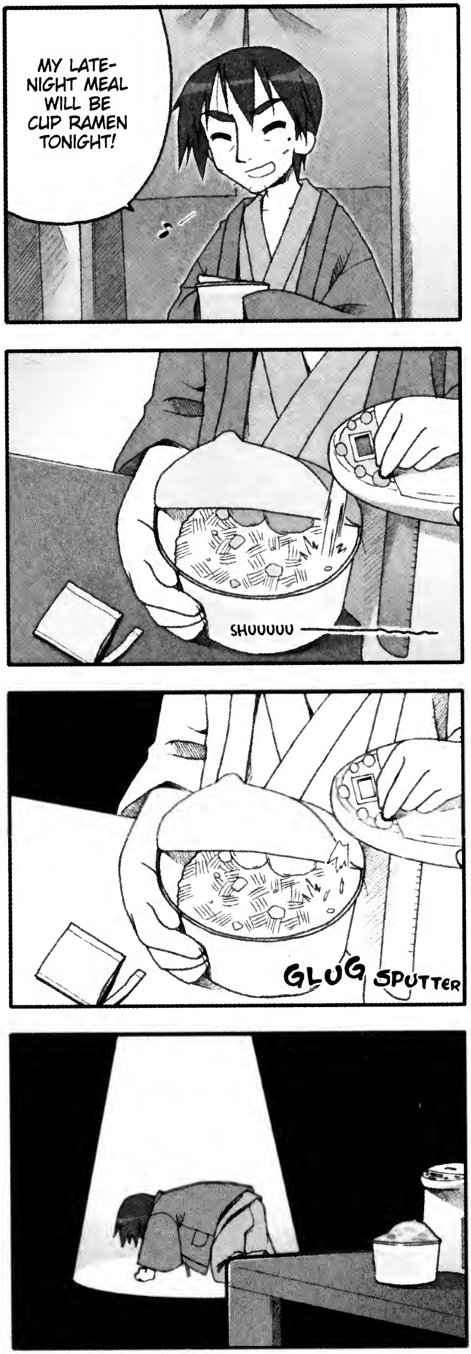
● Dragon Magazine, March 2006 issue


Its one weak point!
You can't see the bonus materials beneath the dust cover with that kind of book cover.

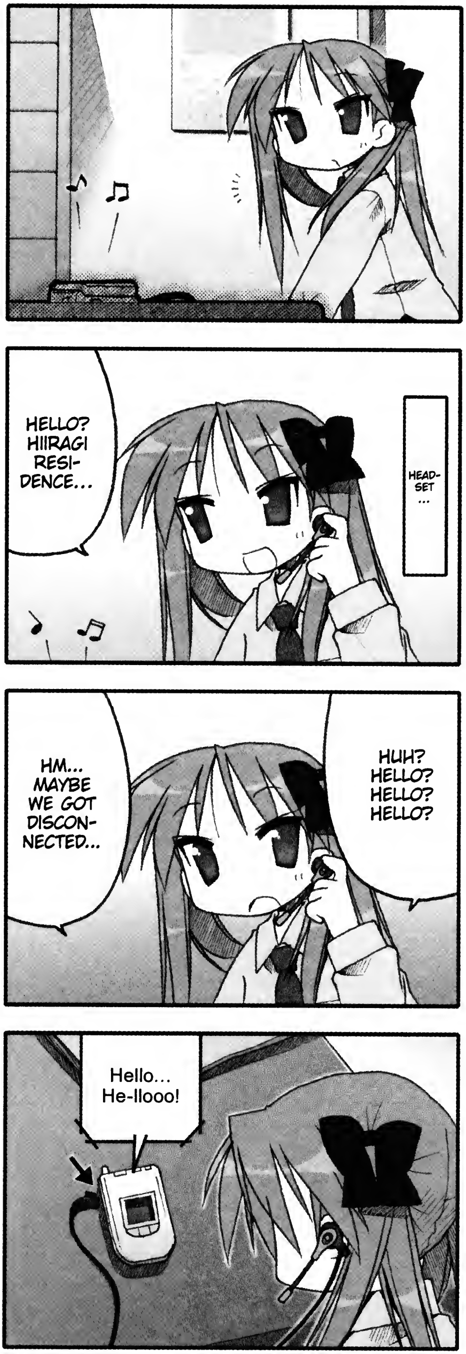
episode 78
top form today too

●Comptiq, May 2006 issue

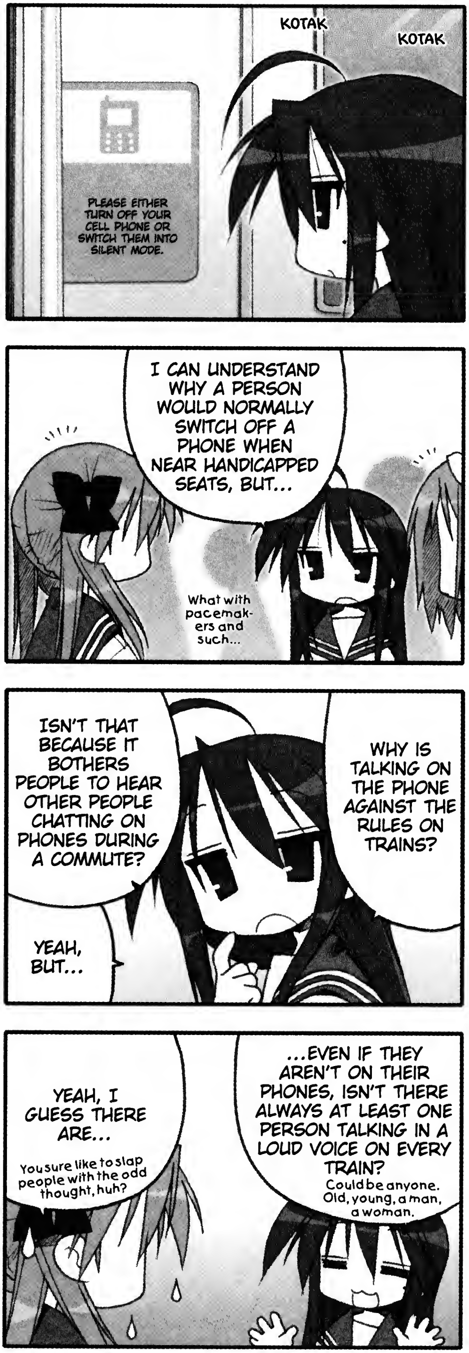
not quite all the way to the line


MY LATE-NIGHT MEAL WILL BE CUP RAMEN TONIGHT!
♪
SHUUUUU
GLUG
SPUTTER

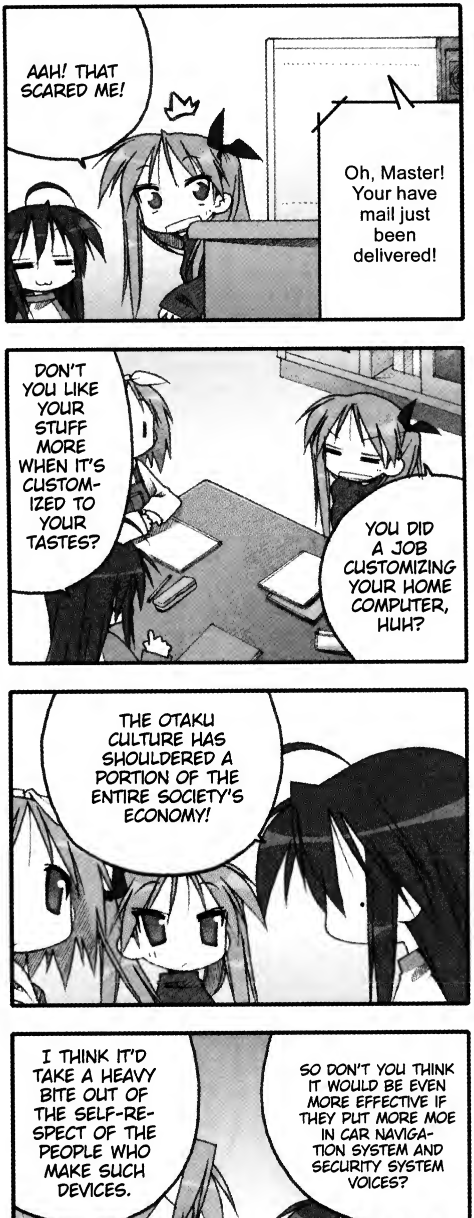
it may not be, but...


HEAD-SET ...
HELLO? HIIRAGI RESI-DENCE...
HUH? HELLO? HELLO? HELLO?
HM... MAYBE WE GOT DISCON-NECTED...
Hello... He-llooo!

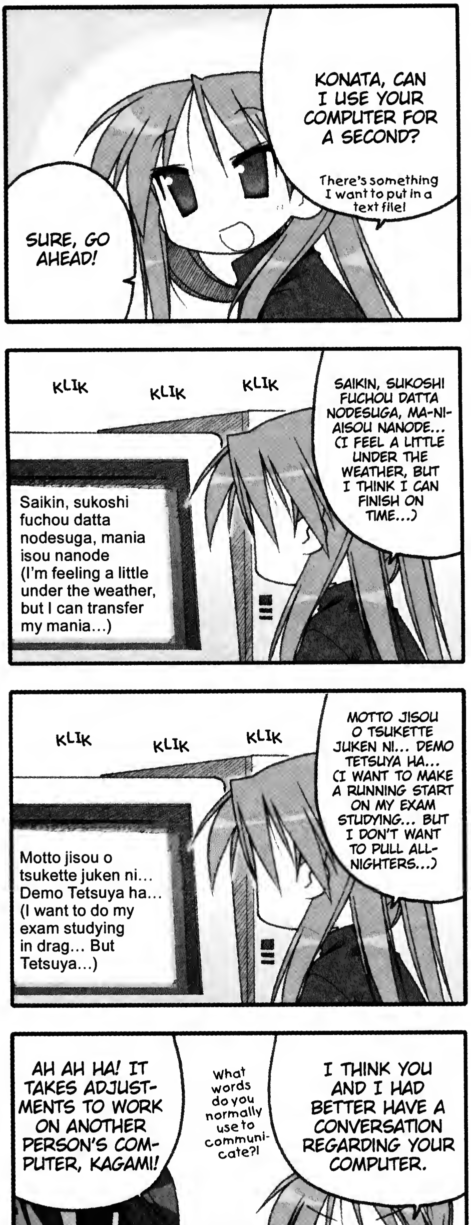
reason


KOTAK
KOTAK
PLEASE EITHER TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE OR SWITCH THEM INTO SILENT MODE.
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY A PERSON WOULD NORMALLY SWITCH OFF A PHONE WHEN NEAR HANDICAPPED SEATS, BUT...
What with pacemakers and such...
WHY IS TALKING ON THE PHONE AGAINST THE RULES ON TRAINS?
ISN'T THAT BECAUSE IT BOTHERS PEOPLE TO HEAR OTHER PEOPLE CHATTING ON PHONES DURING A COMMUTE?
YEAH, BUT...
...EVEN IF THEY AREN'T ON THEIR PHONES, ISN'T THERE ALWAYS AT LEAST ONE PERSON TALKING IN A LOUD VOICE ON EVERY TRAIN?
Could be anyone. Old, young, a man, a woman.
YEAH, I GUESS THERE ARE...
You sure like to slap people with the odd thought, huh?

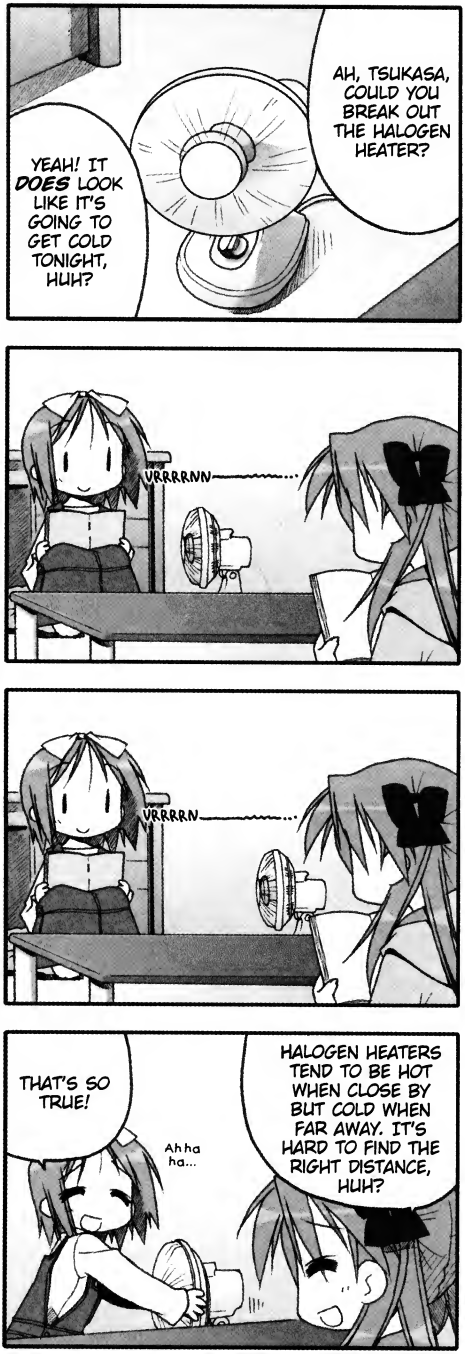
moe empire


Oh, Master! Your have mail just been delivered!
AAH! THAT SCARED ME!
YOU DID A JOB CUSTOMIZING YOUR HOME COMPUTER, HUH?
DON'T YOU LIKE YOUR STUFF MORE WHEN IT'S CUSTOMIZED TO YOUR TASTES?
THE OTAKU CULTURE HAS SHOULDERED A PORTION OF THE ENTIRE SOCIETY'S ECONOMY!
SO DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE IF THEY PUT MORE MOE IN CAR NAVIGATION SYSTEM AND SECURITY SYSTEM VOICES?
I THINK IT'D TAKE A HEAVY BITE OUT OF THE SELF-RESPECT OF THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE SUCH DEVICES.
Something precious will be lost in the transition.

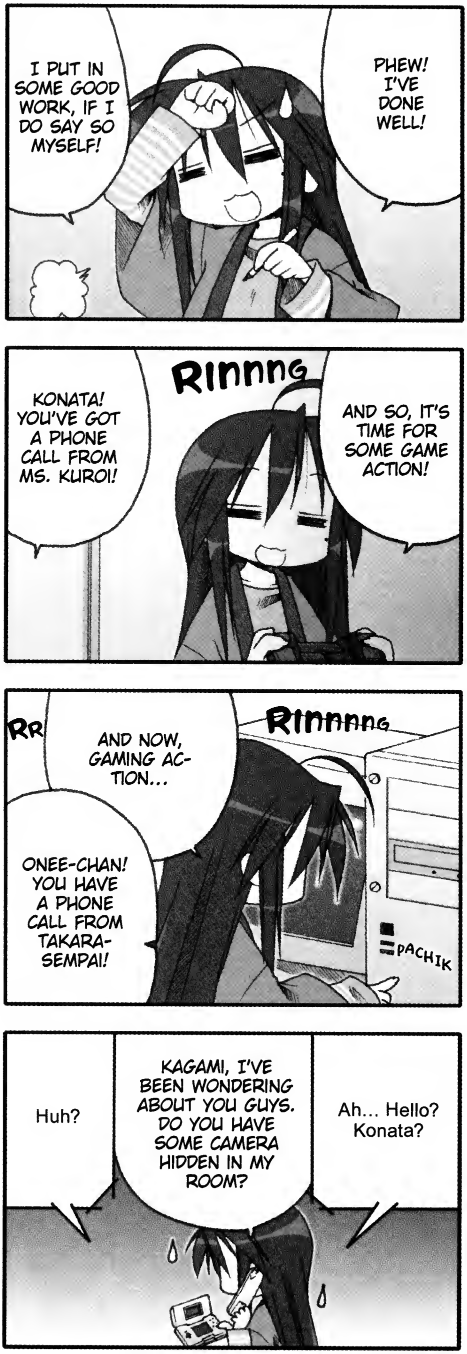
dedicated machine


KONATA, CAN I USE YOUR COMPUTER FOR A SECOND?
There's something I want to put in a text file!
SURE, GO AHEAD!
SAIKIN, SUKOSHI FUCHOU DATTA NODESUGA, MA-NI-AISOU NANODE... (I FEEL A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER, BUT I THINK I CAN FINISH ON TIME...)
KLIK KLIK KLIK
Saikin, sukoshi fuchou datta nodesuga, mania isou nanode (I'm feeling a little under the weather, but I can transfer my mania...)
MOTTO JISOU O TSUKETTE JUKEN NI... DEMO TETSUYA HA... (I WANT TO MAKE A RUNNING START ON MY EXAM STUDYING... BUT I DON'T WANT TO PULL ALL-NIGHTERS...)
KLIK KLIK KLIK
Motto jisou o tsukette juken ni... Demo Tetsuya ha... (I want to do my exam studying in drag... But Tetsuya...)
I THINK YOU AND I HAD BETTER HAVE A CONVERSATION REGARDING YOUR COMPUTER.
What words do you normally use to communicate?!
AH AH HA! IT TAKES ADJUSTMENTS TO WORK ON ANOTHER PERSON'S COMPUTER, KAGAMI!
HEH

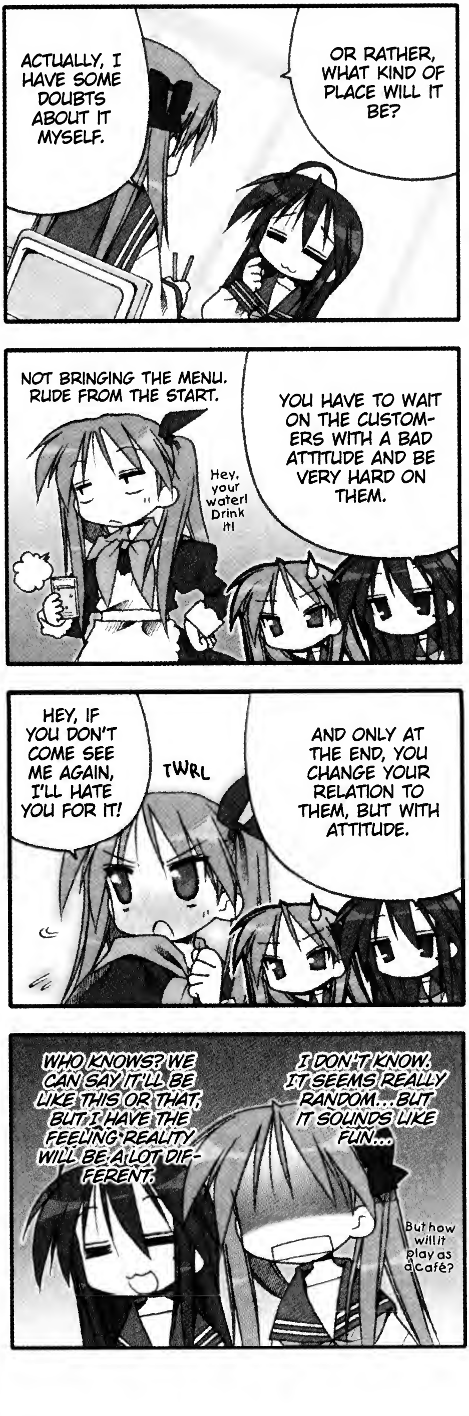
close far


AH, TSUKASA, COULD YOU BREAK OUT THE HALOGEN HEATER?
YEAH! IT DOES LOOK LIKE IT'S GOING TO GET COLD TONIGHT, HUH?
VRRRRNN.......
VRRRRN.......
HALOGEN HEATERS TEND TO BE HOT WHEN CLOSE BY BUT COLD WHEN FAR AWAY. IT'S HARD TO FIND THE RIGHT DISTANCE, HUH?
Ah ha ha...
THAT'S SO TRUE!

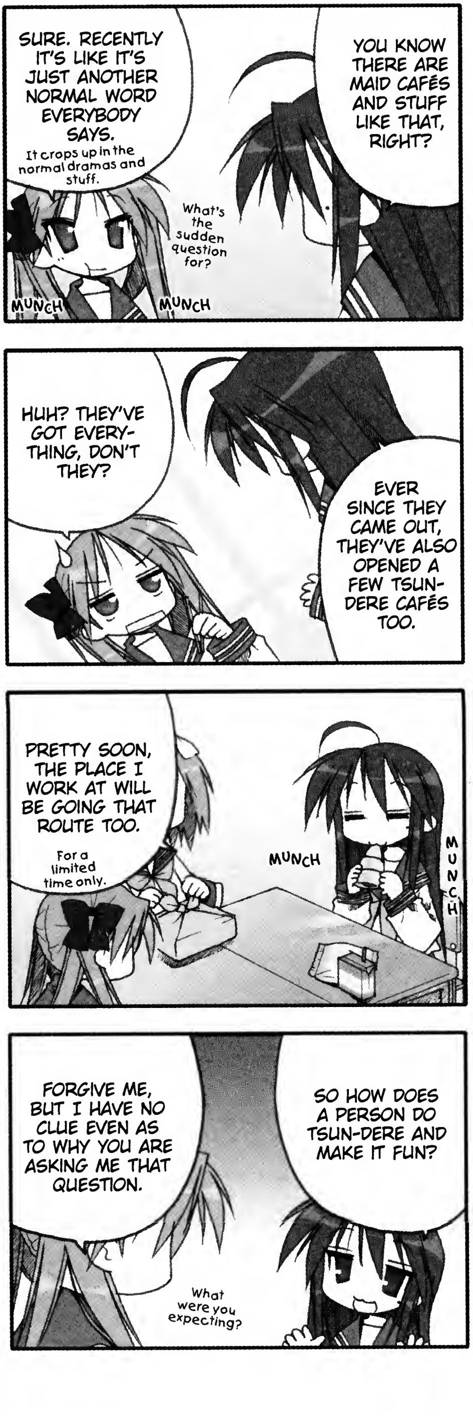
now's her chance


PHEW! I'VE DONE WELL!
I PUT IN SOME GOOD WORK, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
AND SO, IT'S TIME FOR SOME GAME ACTION!
Rinnng
KONATA! YOU'VE GOT A PHONE CALL FROM MS. KUROI!
Rinnnng
Rr
AND NOW, GAMING ACTION...
ONEE-CHAN! YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL FROM TAKARA-SEMPAI!
PACHIK
Ah... Hello? Konata?
KAGAMI, I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT YOU GUYS. DO YOU HAVE SOME CAMERA HIDDEN IN MY ROOM?
Huh?

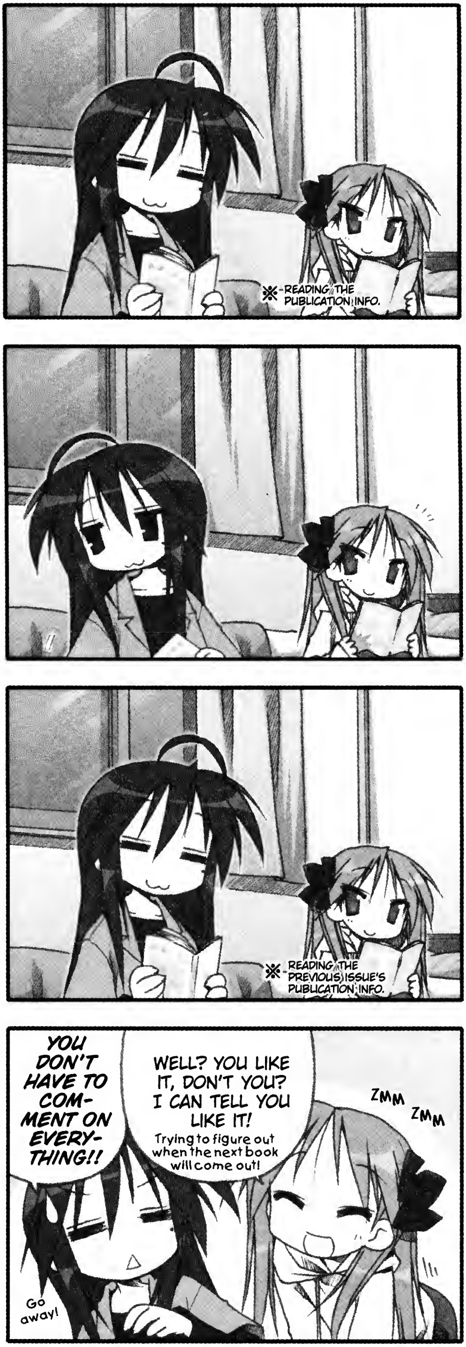
that kind of job


OR RATHER, WHAT KIND OF PLACE WILL IT BE?
ACTUALLY, I HAVE SOME DOUBTS ABOUT IT MYSELF.
YOU HAVE TO WAIT ON THE CUSTOMERS WITH A BAD ATTITUDE AND BE VERY HARD ON THEM.
Hey, your water! Drink it!
NOT BRINGING THE MENU. RUDE FROM THE START.
AND ONLY AT THE END, YOU CHANGE YOUR RELATION TO THEM, BUT WITH ATTITUDE.
TWRL
HEY, IF YOU DON'T COME SEE ME AGAIN, I'LL HATE YOU FOR IT!
I DON'T KNOW. IT SEEMS REALLY RANDOM...BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE FUN...
But how will it play as a café?
WHO KNOWS? WE CAN SAY IT'LL BE LIKE THIS OR THAT, BUT I HAVE THE FEELING REALITY WILL BE A LOT DIFFERENT.

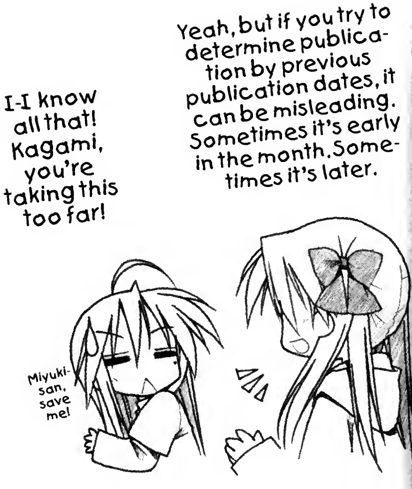
that kind of girl


YOU KNOW THERE ARE MAID CAFÉS AND STUFF LIKE THAT, RIGHT?
What's the sudden question for?
SURE. RECENTLY IT'S LIKE IT'S JUST ANOTHER NORMAL WORD EVERYBODY SAYS.
It crops up in the normal dramas and stuff.
MUNCH
MUNCH
EVER SINCE THEY CAME OUT, THEY'VE ALSO OPENED A FEW TSUN-DERE CAFÉS TOO.
HUH? THEY'VE GOT EVERYTHING, DON'T THEY?
MUNCH
MUNCH
PRETTY SOON, THE PLACE I WORK AT WILL BE GOING THAT ROUTE TOO.
For a limited time only.
SO HOW DOES A PERSON DO TSUN-DERE AND MAKE IT FUN?
What were you expecting?
FORGIVE ME, BUT I HAVE NO CLUE EVEN AS TO WHY YOU ARE ASKING ME THAT QUESTION.

the gap

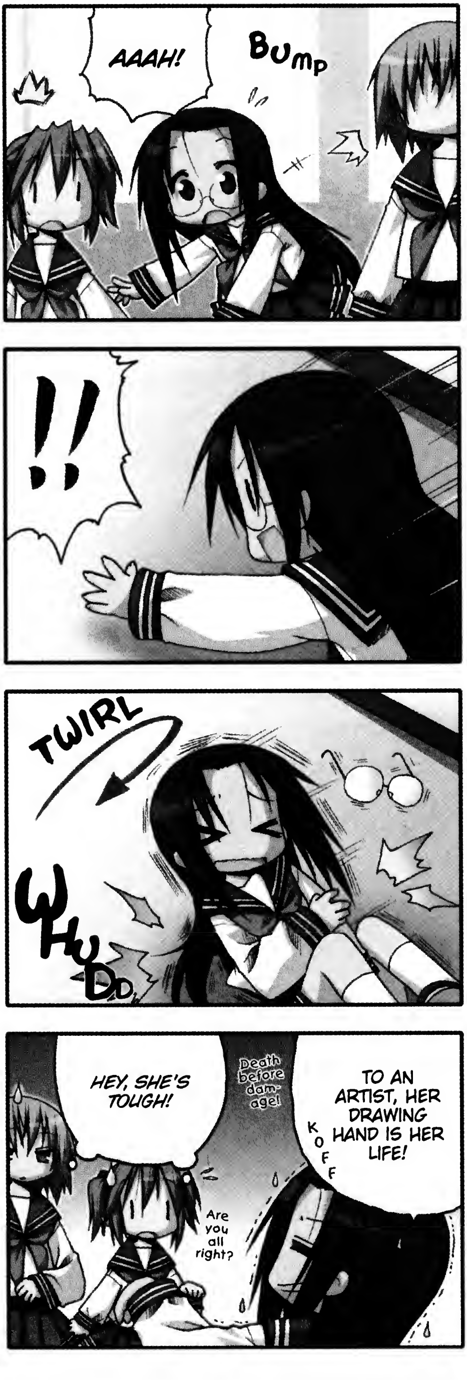

※-READING THE PUBLICATION INFO.
※-READING THE PREVIOUS ISSUE'S PUBLICATION INFO.
ZMM ZMM
WELL? YOU LIKE IT, DON'T YOU? I CAN TELL YOU LIKE IT! Trying to figure out when the next book will come out!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMMENT ON EVERYTHING!!
Go away!

● Dragon Magazine, April 2006 issue


Yeah, but if you try to determine publication by previous publication dates, it can be misleading. Sometimes it's early in the month. Sometimes it's later.
I-I know all that! Kagami, you're taking this too far!
Miyuki-san, save me!

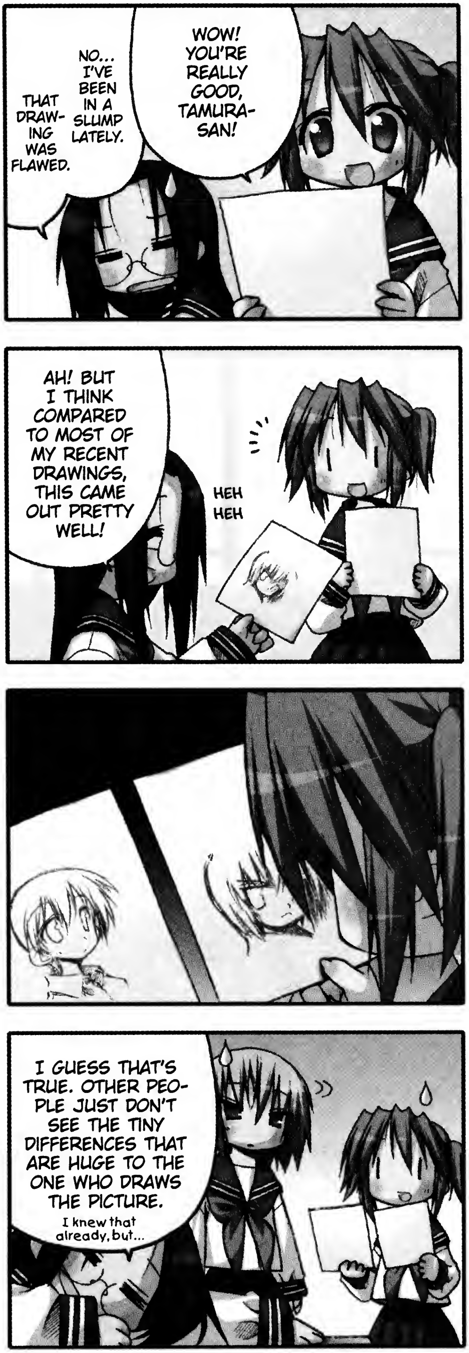
priority boarding

episode 79
undaunted

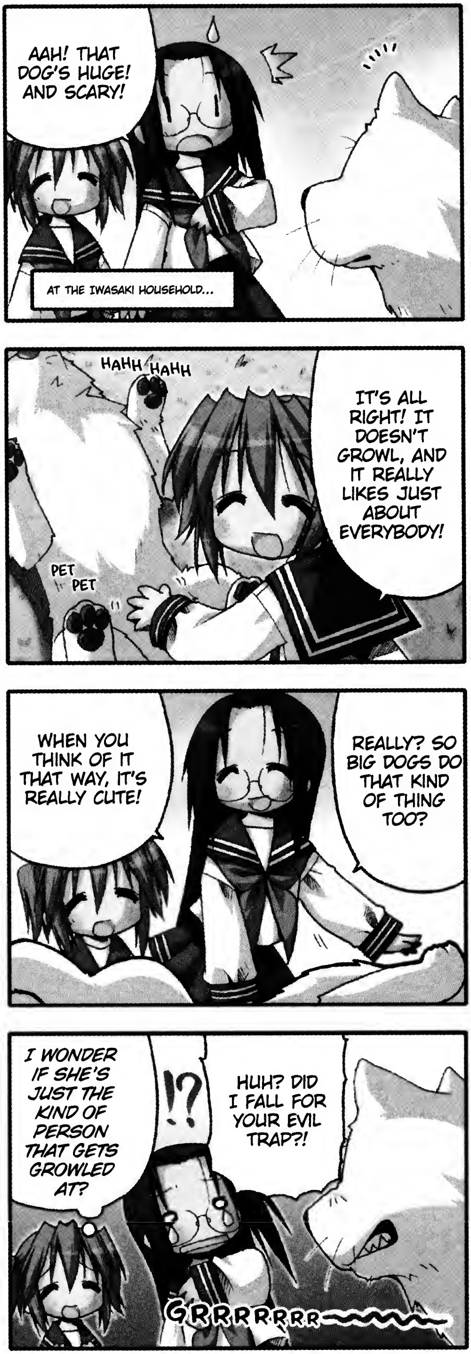

AAAH!
BUMP
!!
TWIRL
WHUDD
HEY, SHE'S TOUGH!
Death before dam-age!
TO AN ARTIST, HER DRAWING HAND IS HER LIFE!
KOFF
Are you all right?

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

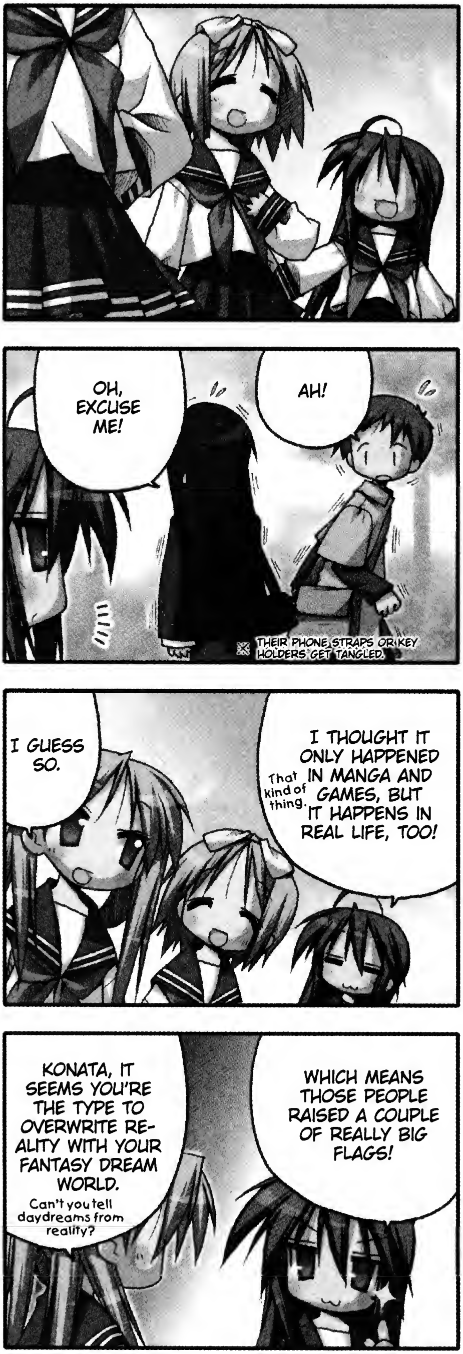
just doesn't understand


WOW! YOU'RE REALLY GOOD, TAMURA-SAN!
NO... I'VE BEEN IN A SLUMP LATELY.
THAT DRAWING WAS FLAWED.
HEH HEH
AH! BUT I THINK COMPARED TO MOST OF MY RECENT DRAWINGS, THIS CAME OUT PRETTY WELL!
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE. OTHER PEOPLE JUST DON'T SEE THE TINY DIFFERENCES THAT ARE HUGE TO THE ONE WHO DRAWS THE PICTURE.
I knew that already, but...

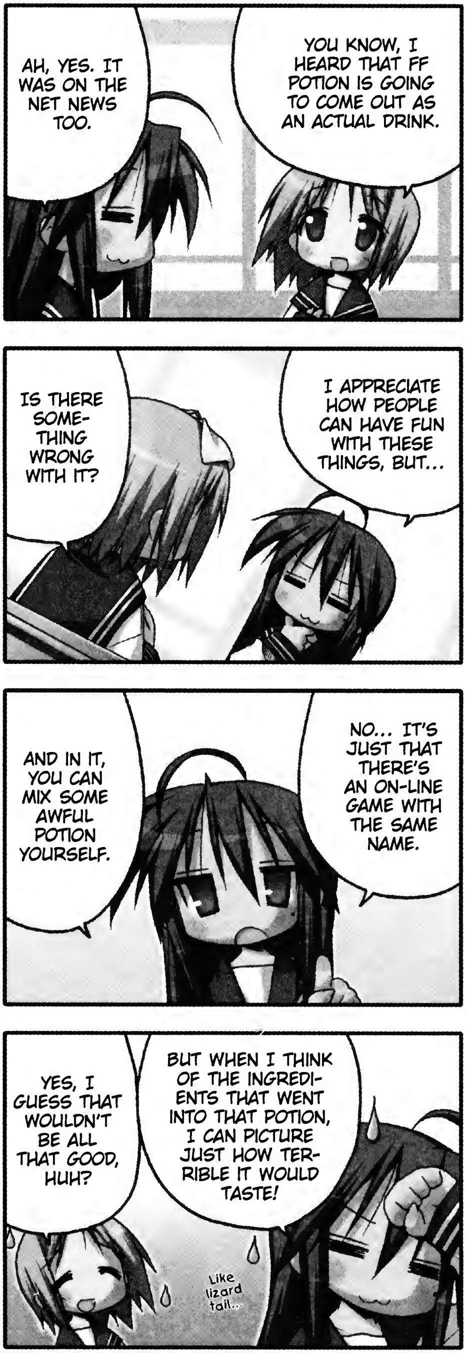
that kind of personality


AAH! THAT DOG'S HUGE! AND SCARY!
AT THE IWASAKI HOUSEHOLD...
IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT DOESN'T GROWL, AND IT REALLY LIKES JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY!
HAHH HAHH
PET PET
REALLY? SO BIG DOGS DO THAT KIND OF THING TOO?
WHEN YOU THINK OF IT THAT WAY, IT'S REALLY CUTE!
HUH? DID I FALL FOR YOUR EVIL TRAP?!
!?
I WONDER IF SHE'S JUST THE KIND OF PERSON THAT GETS GROWLED AT?
GRRRRRRR

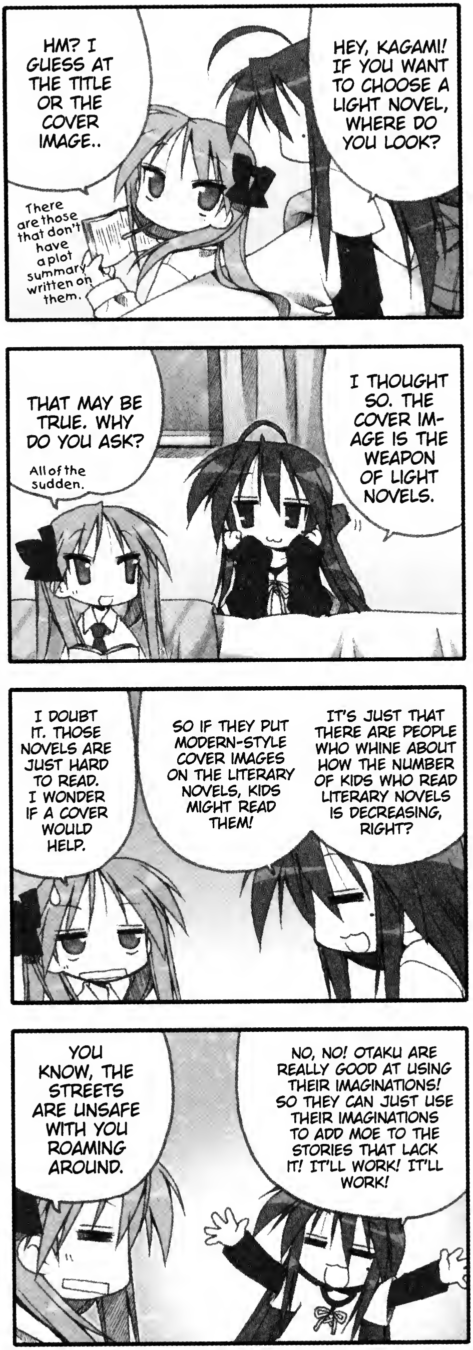
meet and greet event

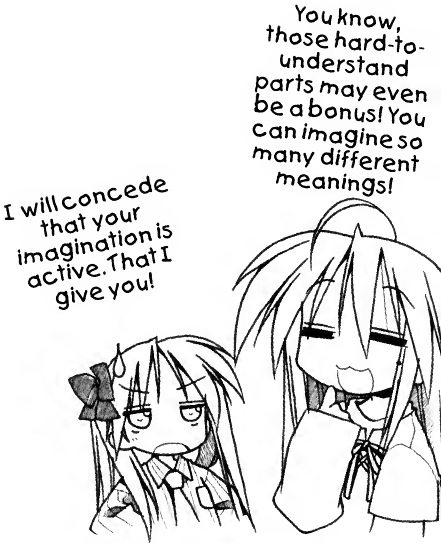

AH!
OH, EXCUSE ME!
※ THEIR PHONE STRAPS OR KEY HOLDERS GET TANGLED.
I THOUGHT IT ONLY HAPPENED IN MANGA AND GAMES, BUT IT HAPPENS IN REAL LIFE, TOO!
That kind of thing.
I GUESS SO.
WHICH MEANS THOSE PEOPLE RAISED A COUPLE OF REALLY BIG FLAGS!
KONATA, IT SEEMS YOU'RE THE TYPE TO OVERWRITE REALITY WITH YOUR FANTASY DREAM WORLD.
Can't you tell daydreams from reality?

so how good is reality really?


YOU KNOW, I HEARD THAT FF POTION IS GOING TO COME OUT AS AN ACTUAL DRINK.
AH, YES. IT WAS ON THE NET NEWS TOO.
I APPRECIATE HOW PEOPLE CAN HAVE FUN WITH THESE THINGS, BUT...
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH IT?
NO... IT'S JUST THAT THERE'S AN ON-LINE GAME WITH THE SAME NAME.
AND IN IT, YOU CAN MIX SOME AWFUL POTION YOURSELF.
BUT WHEN I THINK OF THE INGREDIENTS THAT WENT INTO THAT POTION, I CAN PICTURE JUST HOW TERRIBLE IT WOULD TASTE!
Like lizard tail...
YES, I GUESS THAT WOULDN'T BE ALL THAT GOOD, HUH?

face


HEY, KAGAMI! IF YOU WANT TO CHOOSE A LIGHT NOVEL, WHERE DO YOU LOOK?
HM? I GUESS AT THE TITLE OR THE COVER IMAGE..
There are those that don't have a plot summary written on them.
I THOUGHT SO. THE COVER IMAGE IS THE WEAPON OF LIGHT NOVELS.
THAT MAY BE TRUE. WHY DO YOU ASK?
All of the sudden.
IT'S JUST THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WHINE ABOUT HOW THE NUMBER OF KIDS WHO READ LITERARY NOVELS IS DECREASING, RIGHT?
SO IF THEY PUT MODERN-STYLE COVER IMAGES ON THE LITERARY NOVELS, KIDS MIGHT READ THEM!
I DOUBT IT. THOSE NOVELS ARE JUST HARD TO READ. I WONDER IF A COVER WOULD HELP.
NO, NO! OTAKU ARE REALLY GOOD AT USING THEIR IMAGINATIONS! SO THEY CAN JUST USE THEIR IMAGINATIONS TO ADD MOE TO THE STORIES THAT LACK IT! IT'LL WORK! IT'LL WORK!
YOU KNOW, THE STREETS ARE UNSAFE WITH YOU ROAMING AROUND.

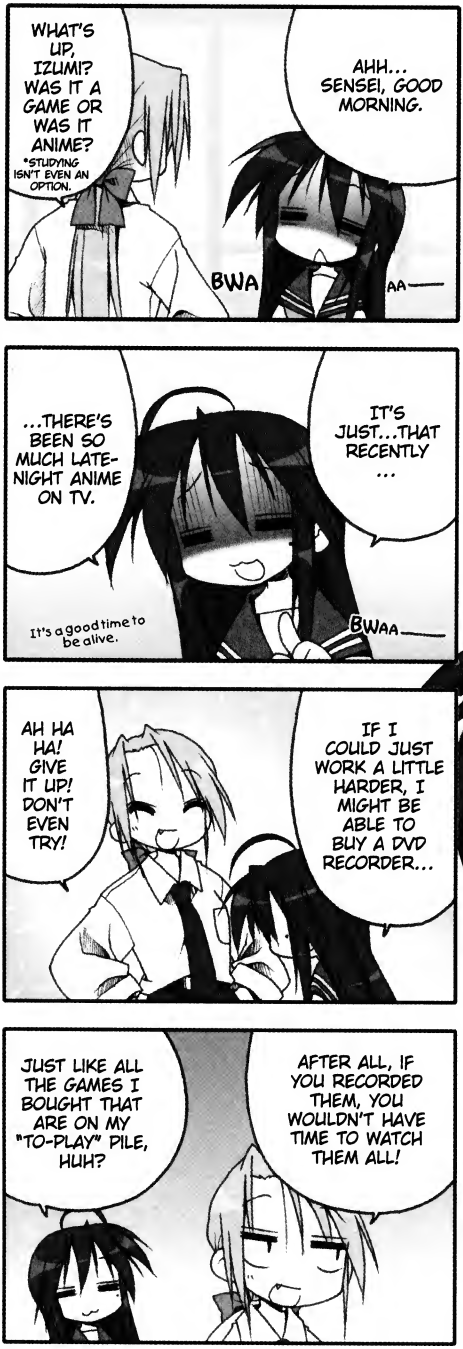

You know, those hard-to-understand parts may even be a bonus! You can imagine so many different meanings!
I will concede that your imagination is active. That I give you!

● Dragon Magazine, May 2006 issue

Lucky☆Star

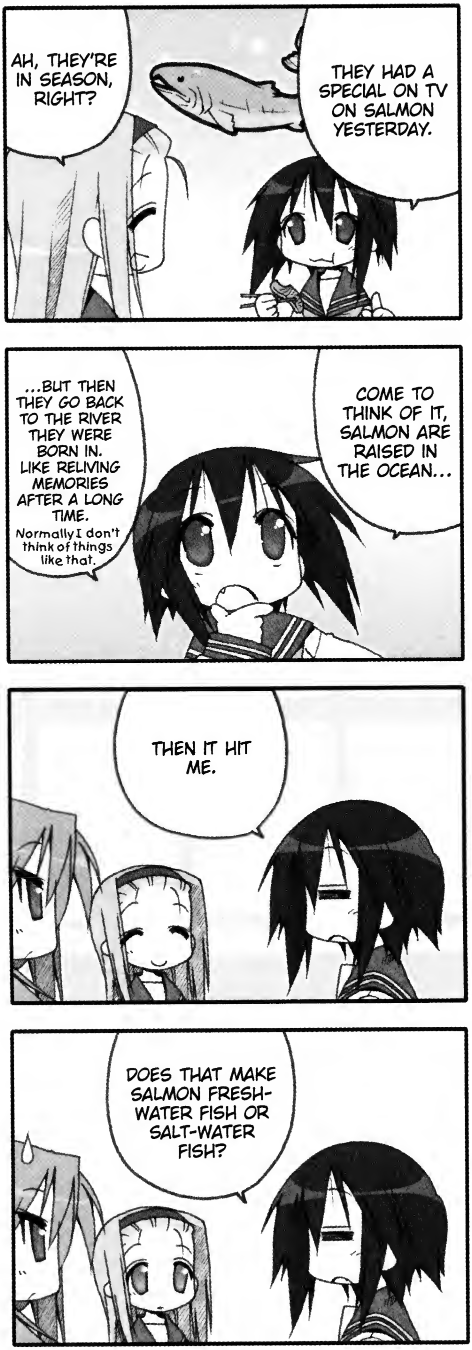
episode 80
advance & retreat, offense & defense

sense of relief, sense of loss

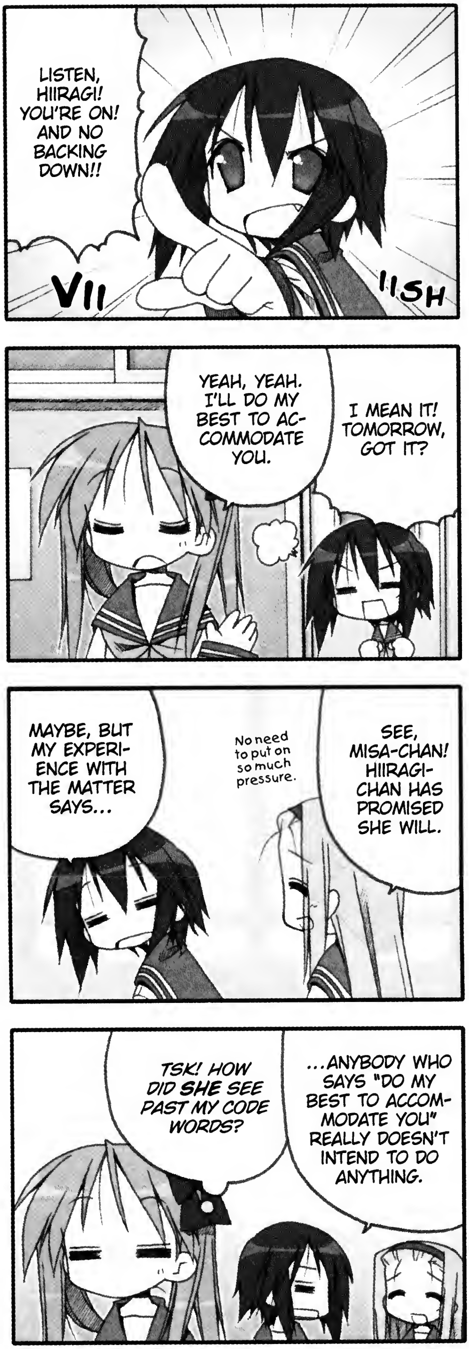

AHH... SENSEI, GOOD MORNING.
WHAT'S UP, IZUMI? WAS IT A GAME OR WAS IT ANIME?
*STUDYING ISN'T EVEN AN OPTION.
BWA AA—
IT'S JUST...THAT RECENTLY...
...THERE'S BEEN SO MUCH LATE-NIGHT ANIME ON TV.
It's a good time to be alive.
BWAA—
IF I COULD JUST WORK A LITTLE HARDER, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO BUY A DVD RECORDER...
AH HA HA! GIVE IT UP! DON'T EVEN TRY!
AFTER ALL, IF YOU RECORDED THEM, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TIME TO WATCH THEM ALL!
JUST LIKE ALL THE GAMES I BOUGHT THAT ARE ON MY "TO-PLAY" PILE, HUH?

● Shonen Ace, May 2006 issue

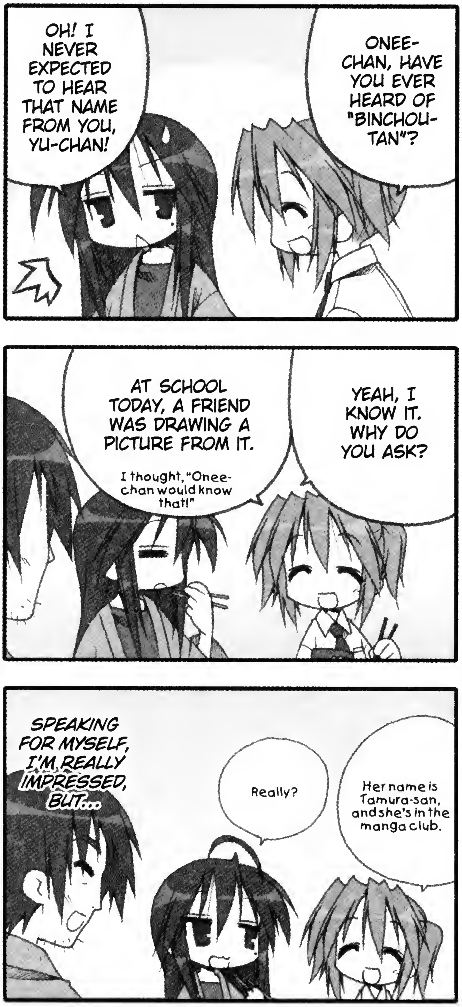
salmon


THEY HAD A SPECIAL ON TV ON SALMON YESTERDAY.
AH, THEY'RE IN SEASON, RIGHT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, SALMON ARE RAISED IN THE OCEAN...
...BUT THEN THEY GO BACK TO THE RIVER THEY WERE BORN IN. LIKE RELIVING MEMORIES AFTER A LONG TIME.
Normally I don't think of things like that.
THEN IT HIT ME.
DOES THAT MAKE SALMON FRESH-WATER FISH OR SALT-WATER FISH?

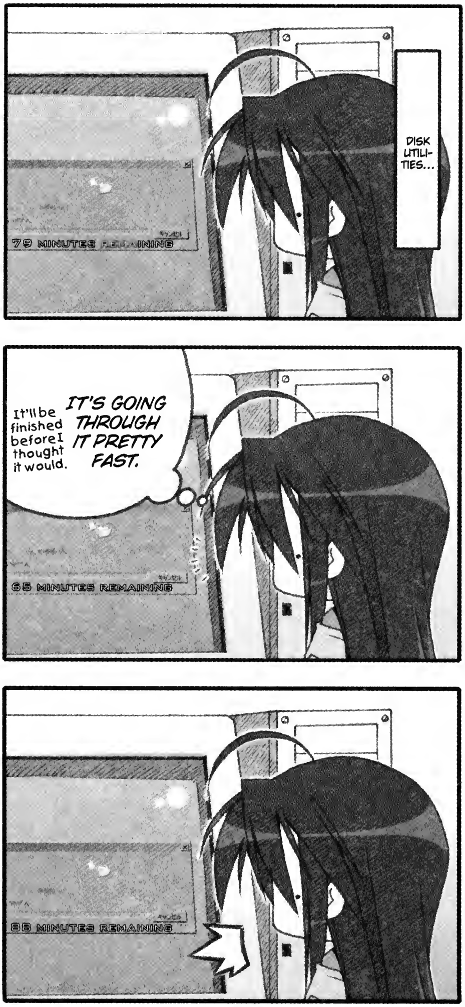
stopgap measure


LISTEN, HIIRAGI! YOU'RE ON! AND NO BACKING DOWN!!
VII
IISH
I MEAN IT! TOMORROW, GOT IT?
YEAH, YEAH. I'LL DO MY BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOU.
SEE, MISA-CHAN! HIIRAGI-CHAN HAS PROMISED SHE WILL.
No need to put on so much pressure.
MAYBE, BUT MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE MATTER SAYS...
...ANYBODY WHO SAYS "DO MY BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOU" REALLY DOESN'T INTEND TO DO ANYTHING.
TSK! HOW DID *SHE* SEE PAST MY CODE WORDS?

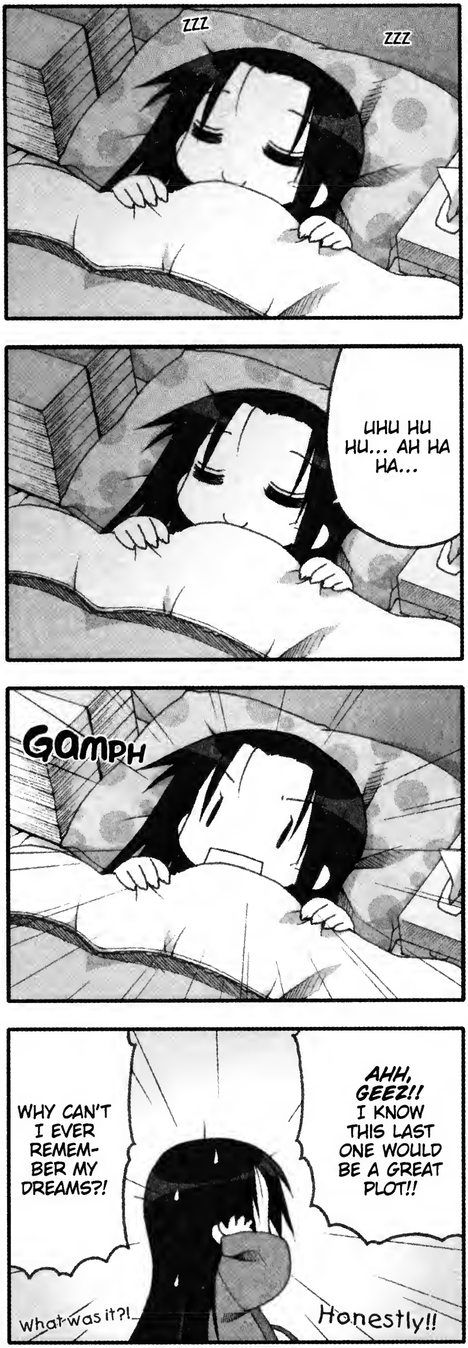
converging in vermilion


ONEE-CHAN, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF "BINCHOU-TAN"?
OH! I NEVER EXPECTED TO HEAR THAT NAME FROM YOU, YU-CHAN!
YEAH, I KNOW IT. WHY DO YOU ASK?
AT SCHOOL TODAY, A FRIEND WAS DRAWING A PICTURE FROM IT.
I thought, "Onee-chan would know that!"
Her name is Tamura-san, and she's in the manga club.
Really?
SPEAKING FOR MYSELF, I'M REALLY IMPRESSED, BUT...
Yu-chan, your otaku wisdom has just increased!
Ha ha ha!
Well, I have an Onee-chan like you!
...IF I SEND HER BACK HOME AS A NEWLY MINTED OTAKU, YUKI* WOULD NEVER FORGIVE ME!
It doesn't have the best image in the mundane world!
※ YUTAKA'S MOTHER, SOUJIROU'S LITTLE SISTER.

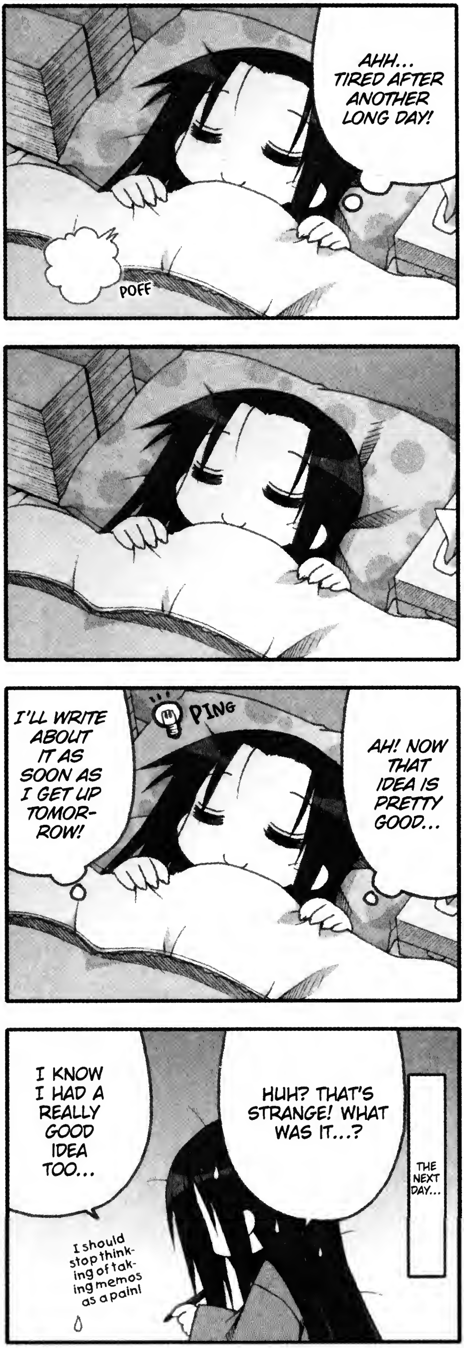
comings and goings


DISK UTILI-TIES...
79 MINUTES REMAINING
IT'S GOING THROUGH IT PRETTY FAST.
It'll be finished before I thought it would.
65 MINUTES REMAINING
88 MINUTES REMAINING
I KNOW IT'S ALWAYS THE CASE.
SOMETIMES IT'S LESS, SOME-TIMES IT'S MORE...
...BUT STILL IT NEVER WORKS OUT THE WAY THE WAY ANYONE PREDICTS!

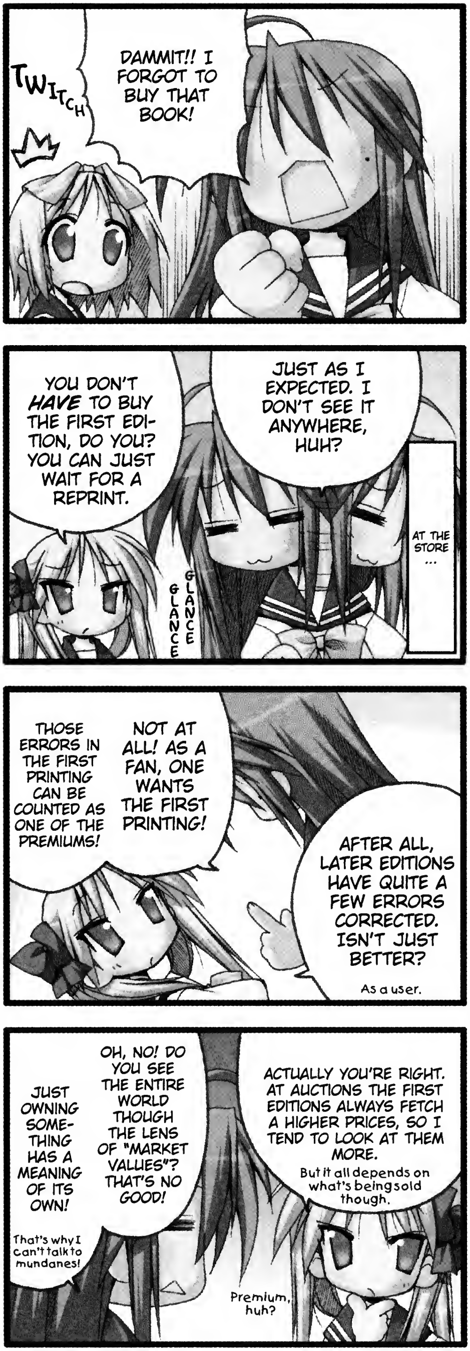
light and darkness


ZZZ
ZZZ
UHU HU HU... AH HA HA...
GAMPH
AHH, GEEZ!! I KNOW THIS LAST ONE WOULD BE A GREAT PLOT!!
WHY CAN'T I EVER REMEMBER MY DREAMS?!
Honestly!!
What was it?!

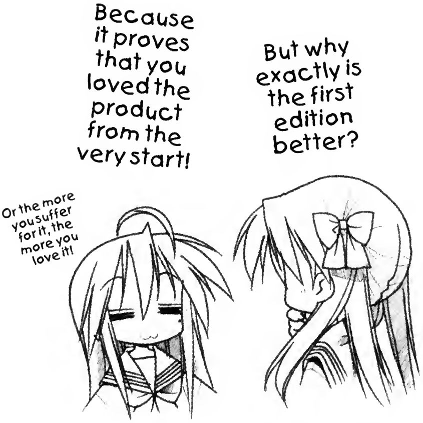
another treasure buried today


AHH... TIRED AFTER ANOTHER LONG DAY!
POFF
AH! NOW THAT IDEA IS PRETTY GOOD...
PING
I'LL WRITE ABOUT IT AS SOON AS I GET UP TOMORROW!
THE NEXT DAY...
HUH? THAT'S STRANGE! WHAT WAS IT...?
I KNOW I HAD A REALLY GOOD IDEA TOO...
I should stop thinking of taking memos as a pain!

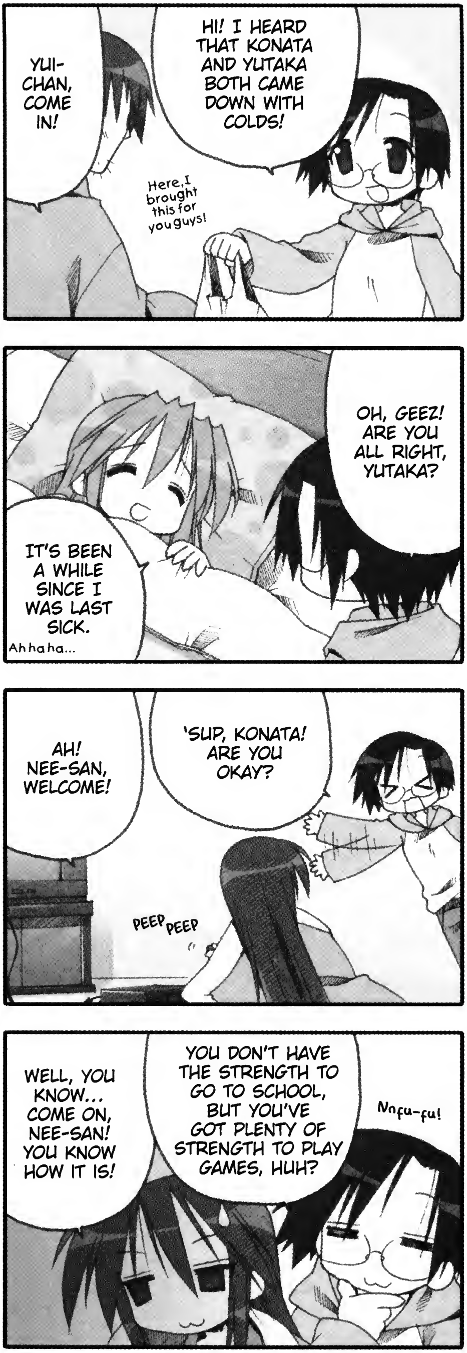
starters


TWITCH
DAMMIT!! I FORGOT TO BUY THAT BOOK!
AT THE STORE ...
JUST AS I EXPECTED. I DON'T SEE IT ANYWHERE, HUH?
YOU DON'T *HAVE* TO BUY THE FIRST EDITION, DO YOU? YOU CAN JUST WAIT FOR A REPRINT.
GLANCE GLANCE
AFTER ALL, LATER EDITIONS HAVE QUITE A FEW ERRORS CORRECTED. ISN'T JUST BETTER?
As a user.
NOT AT ALL! AS A FAN, ONE WANTS THE FIRST PRINTING!
THOSE ERRORS IN THE FIRST PRINTING CAN BE COUNTED AS ONE OF THE PREMIUMS!
ACTUALLY YOU'RE RIGHT. AT AUCTIONS THE FIRST EDITIONS ALWAYS FETCH A HIGHER PRICES, SO I TEND TO LOOK AT THEM MORE.
But it all depends on what's being sold though.
Premium, huh?
OH, NO! DO YOU SEE THE ENTIRE WORLD THOUGH THE LENS OF "MARKET VALUES"? THAT'S NO GOOD!
JUST OWNING SOMETHING HAS A MEANING OF ITS OWN!
That's why I can't talk to mundanes!

● **From Gamers, October 2005 issue**


But why exactly is the first edition better?
Because it proves that you loved the product from the very start!
Or the more you suffer for it, the more you love it!

severe and not-so severe


HI! I HEARD THAT KONATA AND YUTAKA BOTH CAME DOWN WITH COLDS!
YUI-CHAN, COME IN!
Here, I brought this for you guys!
OH, GEEZ! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, YUTAKA?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WAS LAST SICK.
Ahhaha...
'SUP, KONATA! ARE YOU OKAY?
AH! NEE-SAN, WELCOME!
PEEP PEEP
Nnfu-fu!
YOU DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO GO TO SCHOOL, BUT YOU'VE GOT PLENTY OF STRENGTH TO PLAY GAMES, HUH?
WELL, YOU KNOW... COME ON, NEE-SAN! YOU KNOW HOW IT IS!

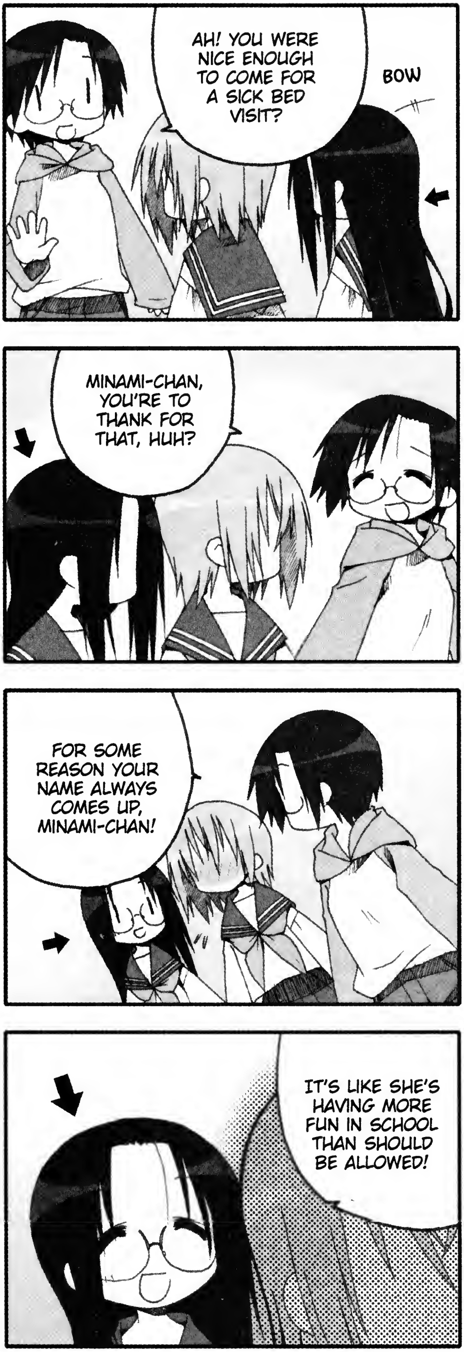
Lucky☆Star

episode 81

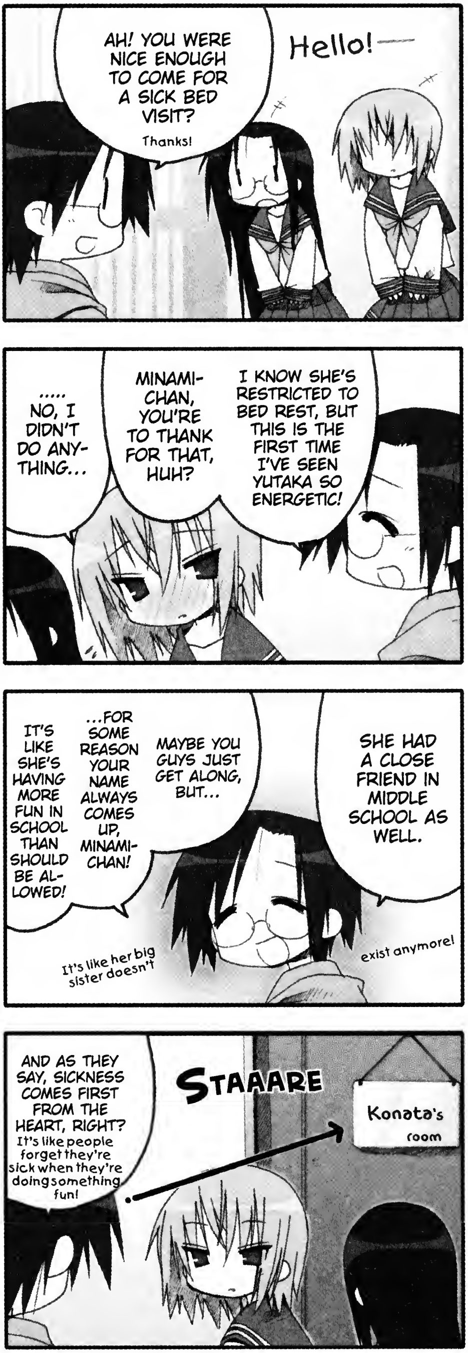
imaginary train

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

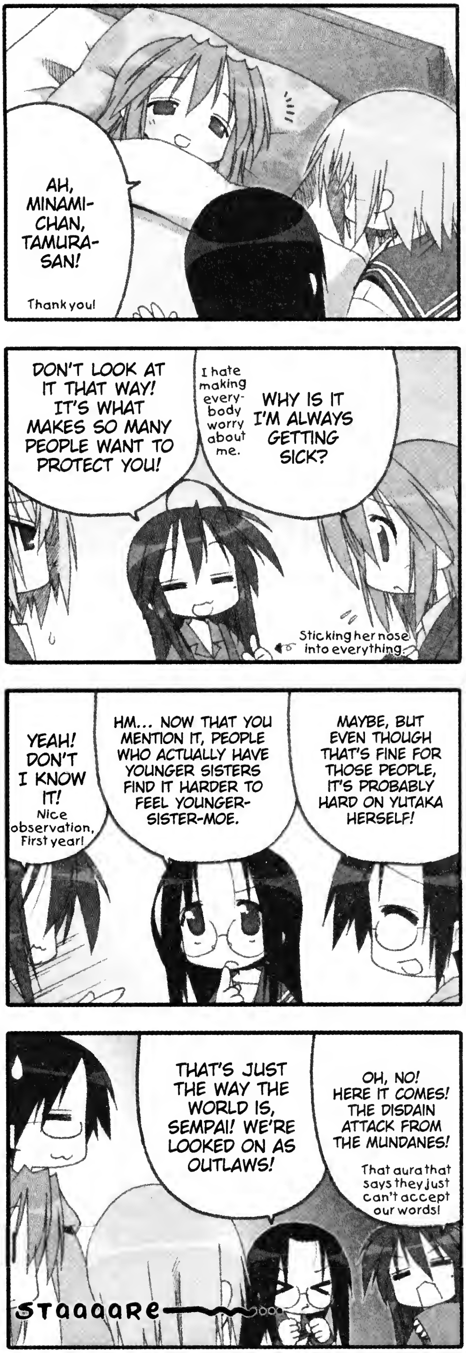
the reason for energy...?


AH! YOU WERE NICE ENOUGH TO COME FOR A SICK BED VISIT?
BOW
MINAMI-CHAN, YOU'RE TO THANK FOR THAT, HUH?
FOR SOME REASON YOUR NAME ALWAYS COMES UP, MINAMI-CHAN!
IT'S LIKE SHE'S HAVING MORE FUN IN SCHOOL THAN SHOULD BE ALLOWED!

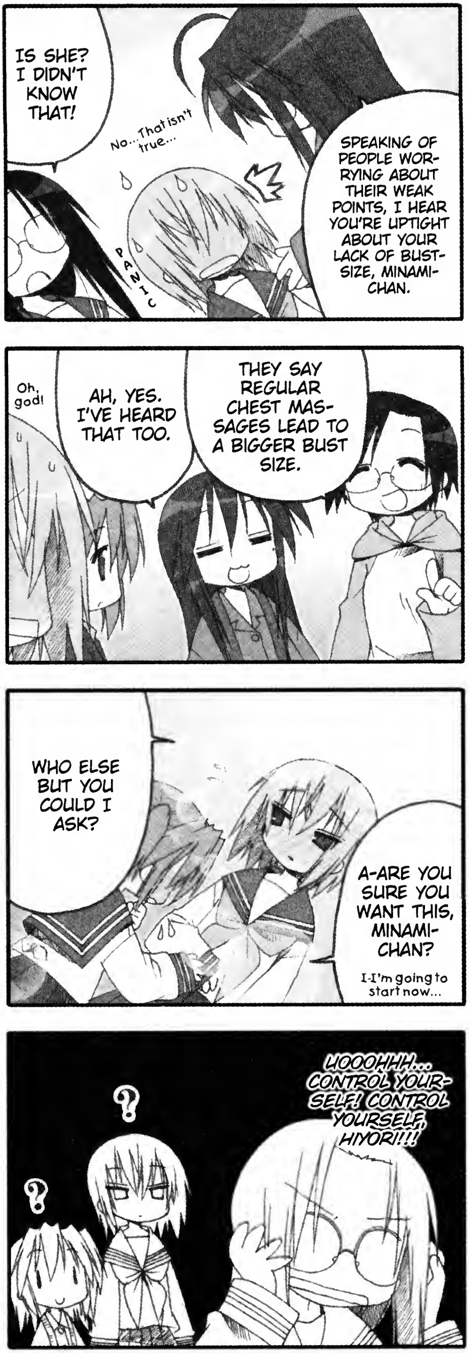
the reason for energy


AH! YOU WERE NICE ENOUGH TO COME FOR A SICK BED VISIT?
Thanks!
Hello!—
I KNOW SHE'S RESTRICTED TO BED REST, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YUTAKA SO ENERGETIC!
MINAMI-CHAN, YOU'RE TO THANK FOR THAT, HUH?
..... NO, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING...
SHE HAD A CLOSE FRIEND IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AS WELL.
MAYBE YOU GUYS JUST GET ALONG, BUT...
...FOR SOME REASON YOUR NAME ALWAYS COMES UP, MINAMI-CHAN!
IT'S LIKE SHE'S HAVING MORE FUN IN SCHOOL THAN SHOULD BE ALLOWED!
It's like her big sister doesn't exist anymore!
AND AS THEY SAY, SICKNESS COMES FIRST FROM THE HEART, RIGHT?
It's like people forget they're sick when they're doing something fun!
STAAARE
Konata's room

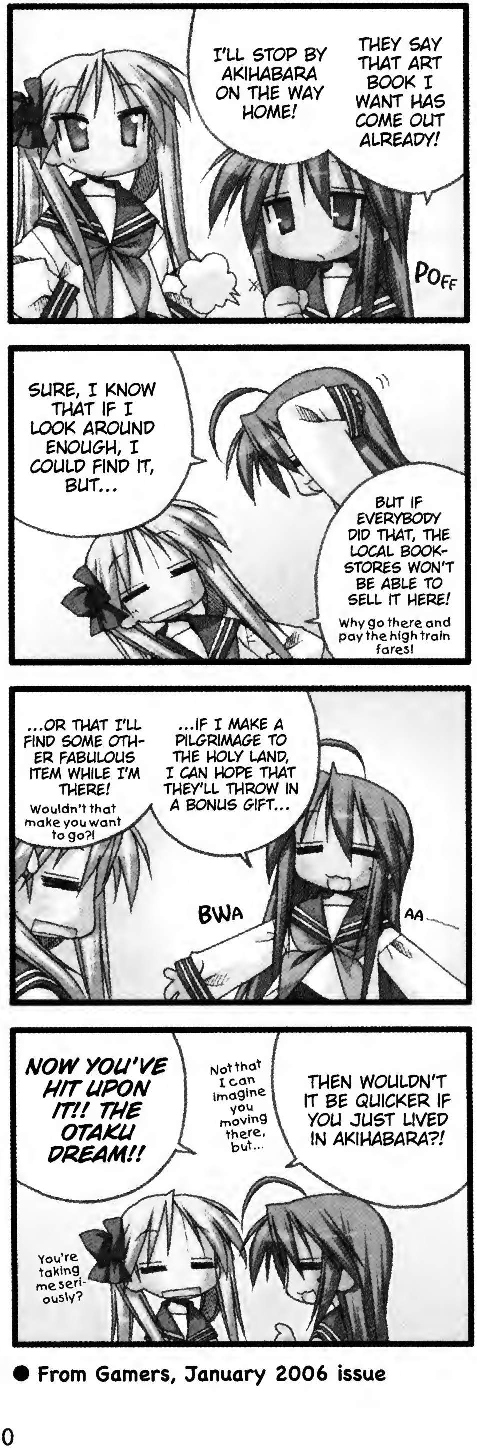
thank you


AH, MINAMI-CHAN, TAMURA-SAN!
Thank you!
WHY IS IT I'M ALWAYS GETTING SICK?
I hate making everybody worry about me.
DON'T LOOK AT IT THAT WAY! IT'S WHAT MAKES SO MANY PEOPLE WANT TO PROTECT YOU!
Sticking her nose into everything.
MAYBE, BUT EVEN THOUGH THAT'S FINE FOR THOSE PEOPLE, IT'S PROBABLY HARD ON YUTAKA HERSELF!
HM... NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY HAVE YOUNGER SISTERS FIND IT HARDER TO FEEL YOUNGER-SISTER-MOE.
YEAH! DON'T I KNOW IT!
Nice observation, First year!
OH, NO! HERE IT COMES! THE DISDAIN ATTACK FROM THE MUNDANES!
That aura that says they just can't accept our words!
THAT'S JUST THE WAY THE WORLD IS, SEMPAI! WE'RE LOOKED ON AS OUTLAWS!
staaaare

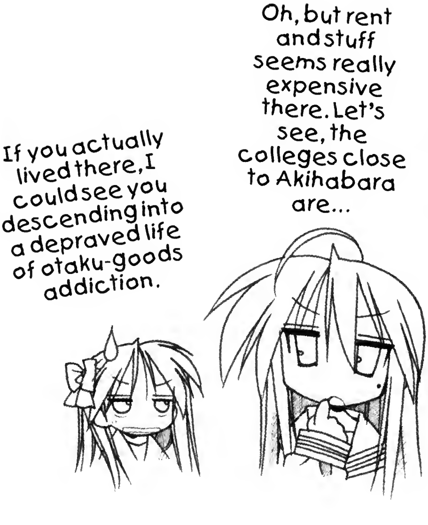
not at all


SPEAKING OF PEOPLE WORRYING ABOUT THEIR WEAK POINTS, I HEAR YOU'RE UPTIGHT ABOUT YOUR LACK OF BUST-SIZE, MINAMI-CHAN.
No... That isn't true...
PANIC
IS SHE? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!
THEY SAY REGULAR CHEST MASSAGES LEAD TO A BIGGER BUST SIZE.
AH, YES. I'VE HEARD THAT TOO.
Oh, god!
A-ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT THIS, MINAMI-CHAN?
I-I'm going to start now...
WHO ELSE BUT YOU COULD I ASK?
UOOOHHH... CONTROL YOURSELF! CONTROL YOURSELF, HIYORI!!!
?
?

utopia

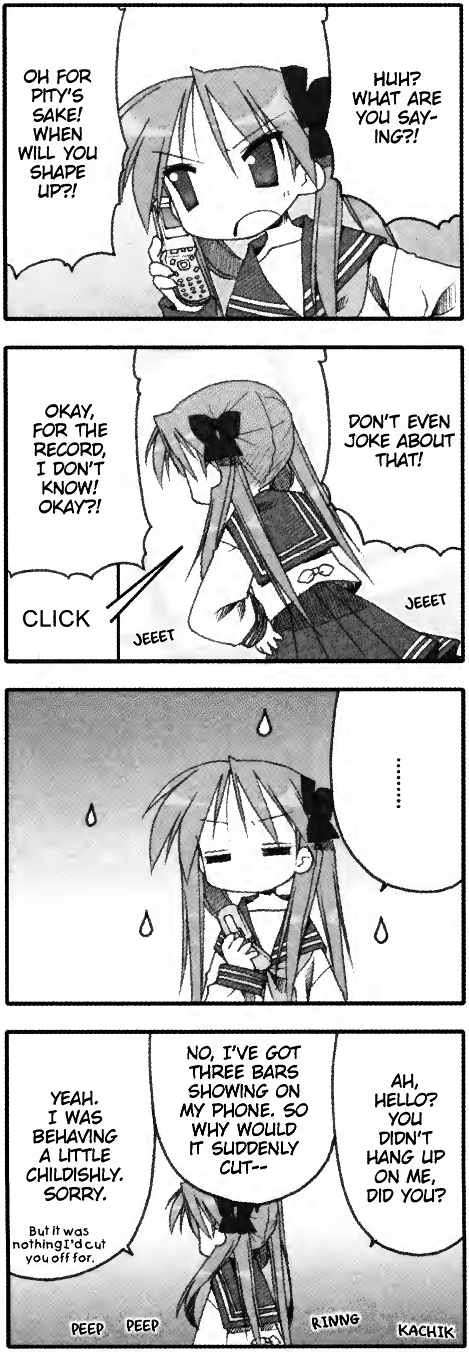

THEY SAY THAT ART BOOK I WANT HAS COME OUT ALREADY!
I'LL STOP BY AKIHABARA ON THE WAY HOME!
POFF
BUT IF EVERYBODY DID THAT, THE LOCAL BOOK-STORES WON'T BE ABLE TO SELL IT HERE!
Why go there and pay the high train fares!
SURE, I KNOW THAT IF I LOOK AROUND ENOUGH, I COULD FIND IT, BUT...
...IF I MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND, I CAN HOPE THAT THEY'LL THROW IN A BONUS GIFT...
...OR THAT I'LL FIND SOME OTHER FABULOUS ITEM WHILE I'M THERE!
Wouldn't that make you want to go?!
BWA
AA
THEN WOULDN'T IT BE QUICKER IF YOU JUST LIVED IN AKIHABARA?!
Not that I can imagine you moving there, but...
NOW YOU'VE HIT UPON IT!! THE OTAKU DREAM!!
You're taking me seriously?

● From Gamers, January 2006 issue


Oh, but rent and stuff seems really expensive there. Let's see, the colleges close to Akihabara are...
If you actually lived there, I could see you descending into a depraved life of otaku-goods addiction.

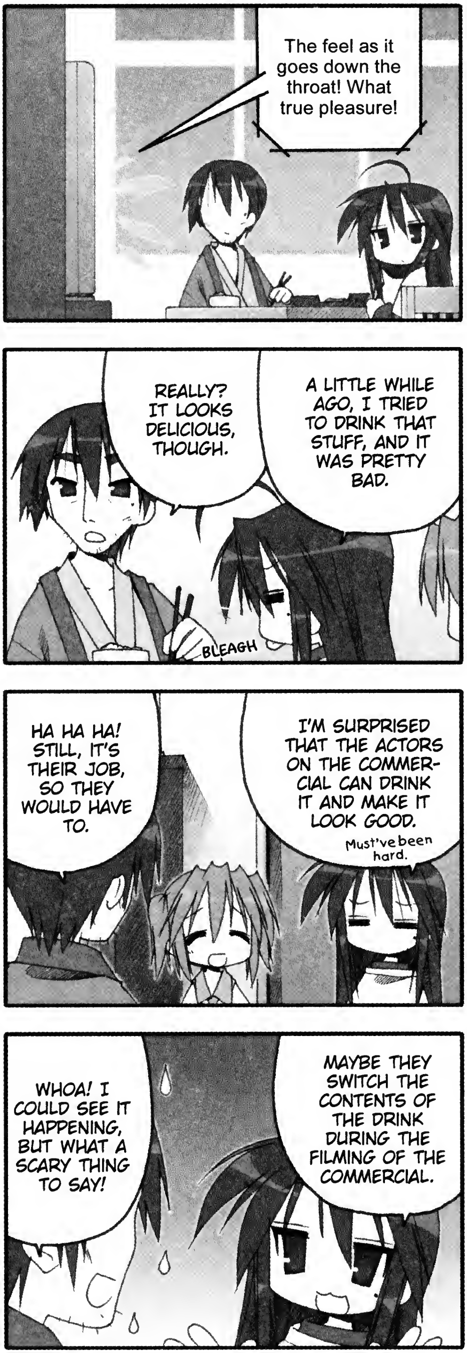
episode 82
rough seas

destiny's prank

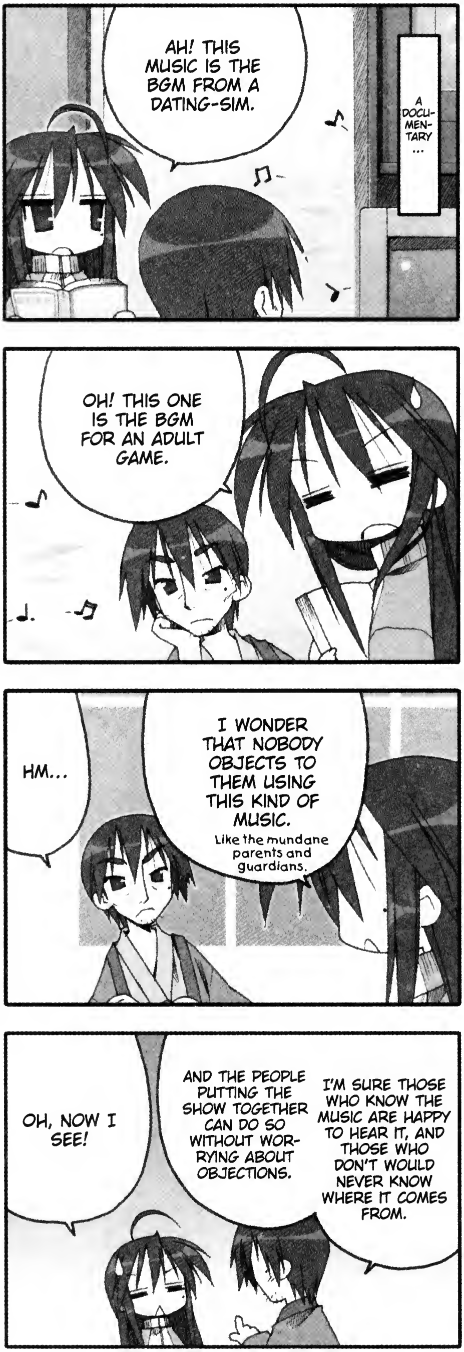

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
OH FOR PITY'S SAKE! WHEN WILL YOU SHAPE UP?!
DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT THAT!
OKAY, FOR THE RECORD, I DON'T KNOW! OKAY?!
JEEET
CLICK
JEEET
....
AH, HELLO? YOU DIDN'T HANG UP ON ME, DID YOU?
NO, I'VE GOT THREE BARS SHOWING ON MY PHONE. SO WHY WOULD IT SUDDENLY CUT--
YEAH. I WAS BEHAVING A LITTLE CHILDISHLY. SORRY.
But it was nothing I'd cut you off for.
KACHIK
RINNG
PEEP
PEEP

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

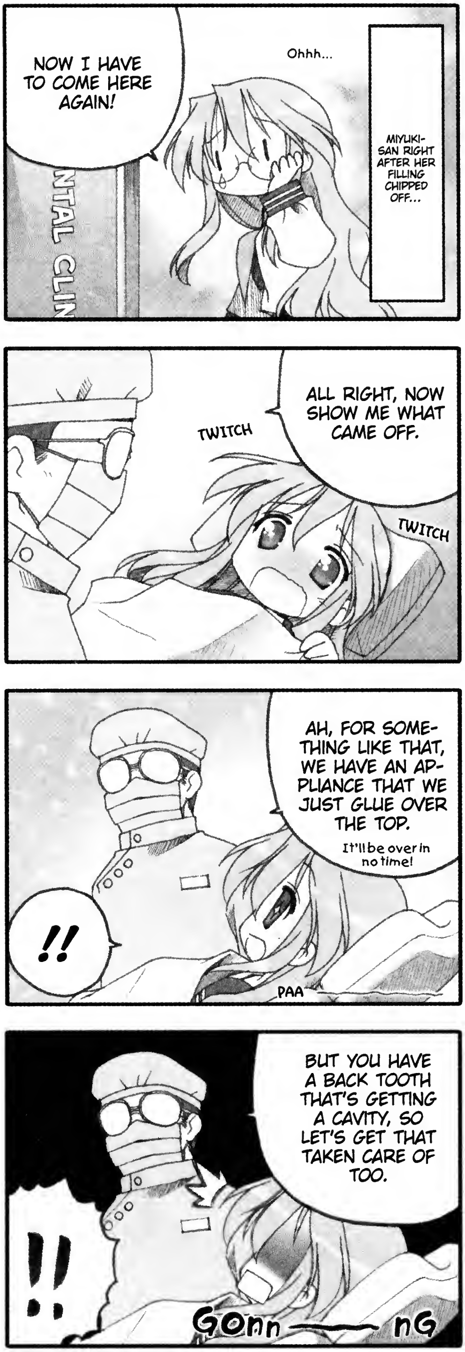
refreshing like a blue sky after a rain


The feel as it goes down the throat! What true pleasure!
A LITTLE WHILE AGO, I TRIED TO DRINK THAT STUFF, AND IT WAS PRETTY BAD.
REALLY? IT LOOKS DELICIOUS, THOUGH.
BLEAGH
I'M SURPRISED THAT THE ACTORS ON THE COMMERCIAL CAN DRINK IT AND MAKE IT LOOK GOOD.
Must've been hard.
HA HA HA! STILL, IT'S THEIR JOB, SO THEY WOULD HAVE TO.
MAYBE THEY SWITCH THE CONTENTS OF THE DRINK DURING THE FILMING OF THE COMMERCIAL.
WHOA! I COULD SEE IT HAPPENING, BUT WHAT A SCARY THING TO SAY!

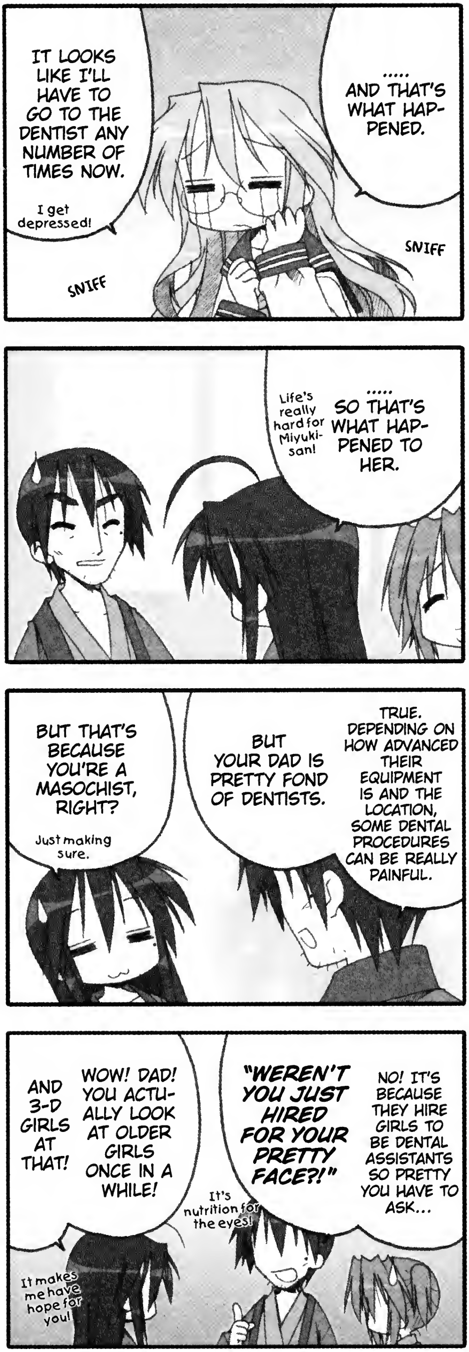
uncensored blending of audio and video


A DOCUMENTARY...
AH! THIS MUSIC IS THE BGM FROM A DATING-SIM.
OH! THIS ONE IS THE BGM FOR AN ADULT GAME.
I WONDER THAT NOBODY OBJECTS TO THEM USING THIS KIND OF MUSIC.
Like the mundane parents and guardians.
HM...
I'M SURE THOSE WHO KNOW THE MUSIC ARE HAPPY TO HEAR IT, AND THOSE WHO DON'T WOULD NEVER KNOW WHERE IT COMES FROM.
AND THE PEOPLE PUTTING THE SHOW TOGETHER CAN DO SO WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT OBJECTIONS.
OH, NOW I SEE!

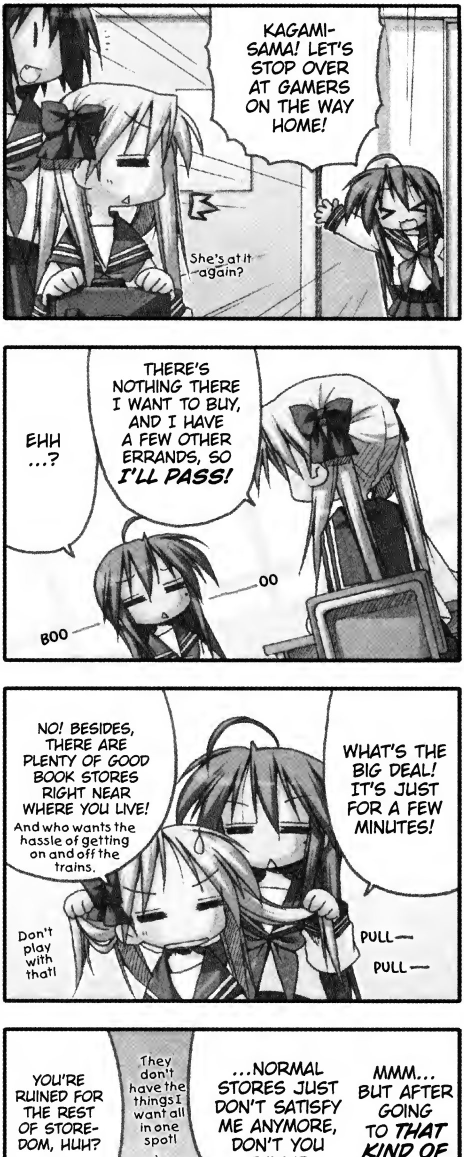
faint


MIYUKI-SAN RIGHT AFTER HER FILLING CHIPPED OFF...
Ohhh...
NOW I HAVE TO COME HERE AGAIN!
NTAL CLIN
ALL RIGHT, NOW SHOW ME WHAT CAME OFF.
TWITCH
TWITCH
AH, FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, WE HAVE AN APPLIANCE THAT WE JUST GLUE OVER THE TOP.
It'll be over in no time!
!!
PAA
BUT YOU HAVE A BACK TOOTH THAT'S GETTING A CAVITY, SO LET'S GET THAT TAKEN CARE OF TOO.
!!
GOnn—— nG

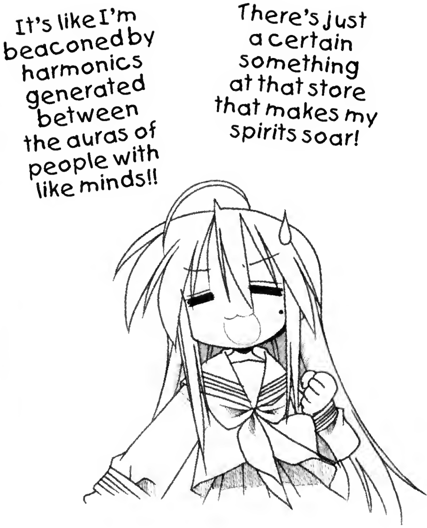
standards of employment


..... AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO GO TO THE DENTIST ANY NUMBER OF TIMES NOW.
I get depressed!
SNIFF
SNIFF
..... SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.
Life's really hard for Miyuki-san!
TRUE. DEPENDING ON HOW ADVANCED THEIR EQUIPMENT IS AND THE LOCATION, SOME DENTAL PROCEDURES CAN BE REALLY PAINFUL.
BUT YOUR DAD IS PRETTY FOND OF DENTISTS.
BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A MASOCHIST, RIGHT?
Just making sure.
NO! IT'S BECAUSE THEY HIRE GIRLS TO BE DENTAL ASSISTANTS SO PRETTY YOU HAVE TO ASK...
"WEREN'T YOU JUST HIRED FOR YOUR PRETTY FACE?!"
It's nutrition for the eyes!
WOW! DAD! YOU ACTUALLY LOOK AT OLDER GIRLS ONCE IN A WHILE!
AND 3-D GIRLS AT THAT!
It makes me have hope for you!

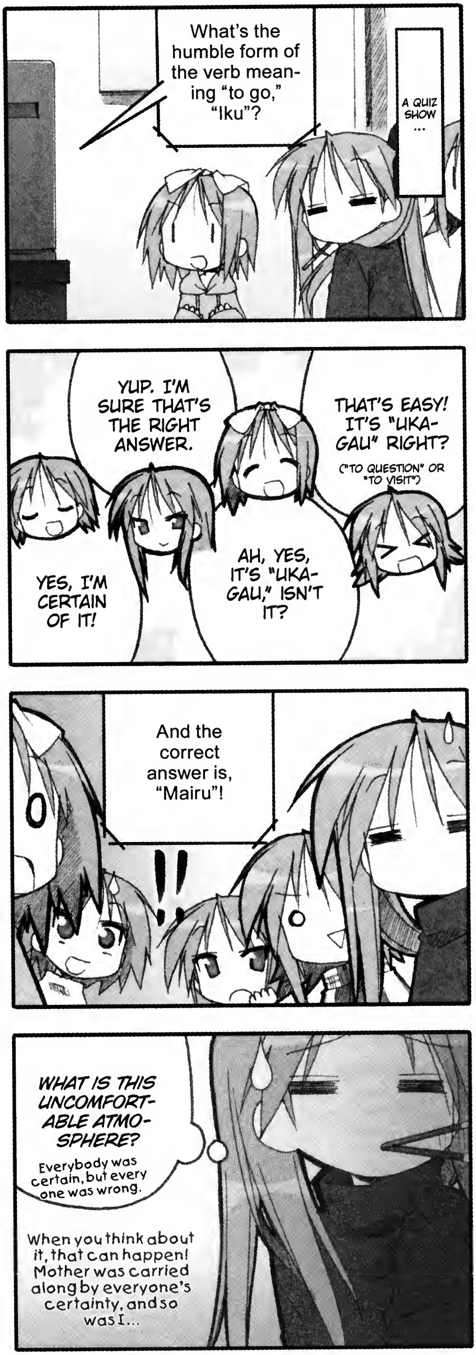
el dorado


KAGAMI-SAMA! LET'S STOP OVER AT GAMERS ON THE WAY HOME!
She's at it again?
THERE'S NOTHING THERE I WANT TO BUY, AND I HAVE A FEW OTHER ERRANDS, SO ***I'LL PASS!***
EHH ...?
BOO
OO
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL! IT'S JUST FOR A FEW MINUTES!
PULL—
PULL—
NO! BESIDES, THERE ARE PLENTY OF GOOD BOOK STORES RIGHT NEAR WHERE YOU LIVE!
And who wants the hassle of getting on and off the trains.
Don't play with that!
MMM... BUT AFTER GOING TO ***THAT KIND OF STORE*** ONCE...
...NORMAL STORES JUST DON'T SATISFY ME ANYMORE, DON'T YOU THINK?
They don't have the things I want all in one spot!
YOU'RE RUINED FOR THE REST OF STORE-DOM, HUH?
I should have guessed.

● **From Gamers, February 2006 issue**


There's just a certain something at that store that makes my spirits soar!
It's like I'm beaconed by harmonics generated between the auras of people with like minds!!

oh the pain


A QUIZ SHOW ...
What's the humble form of the verb meaning "to go," "Iku"?
THAT'S EASY! IT'S "UKAGAU" RIGHT?
("TO QUESTION" OR "TO VISIT")
AH, YES, IT'S "UKAGAU," ISN'T IT?
YUP. I'M SURE THAT'S THE RIGHT ANSWER.
YES, I'M CERTAIN OF IT!
And the correct answer is, "Mairu"!
!!
WHAT IS THIS UNCOMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE?
Everybody was certain, but every one was wrong.
When you think about it, that can happen! Mother was carried along by everyone's certainty, and so was I...

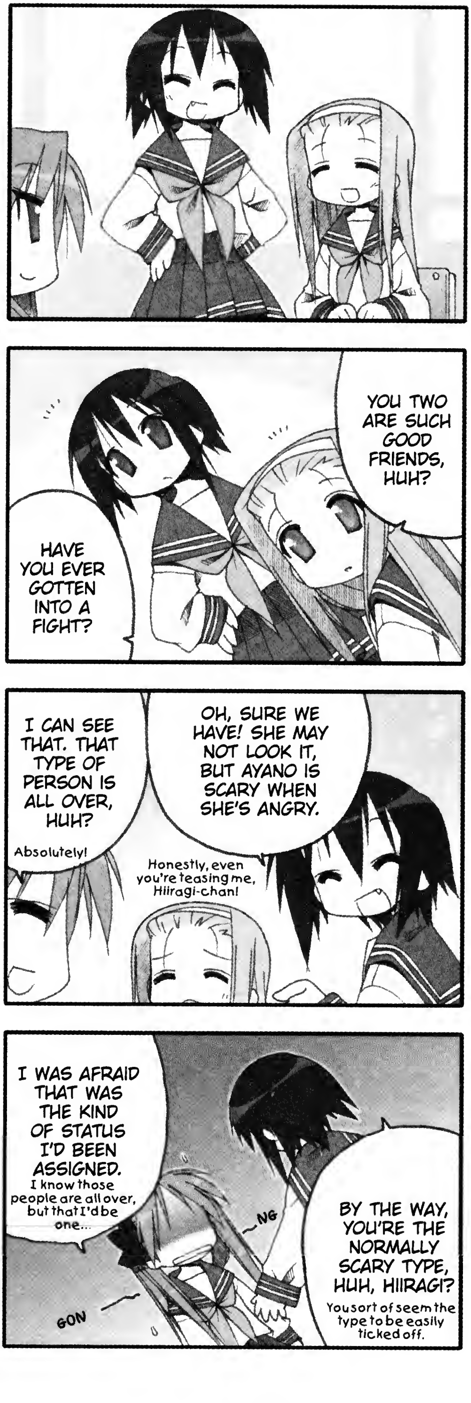
Lucky☆Star

episode 83

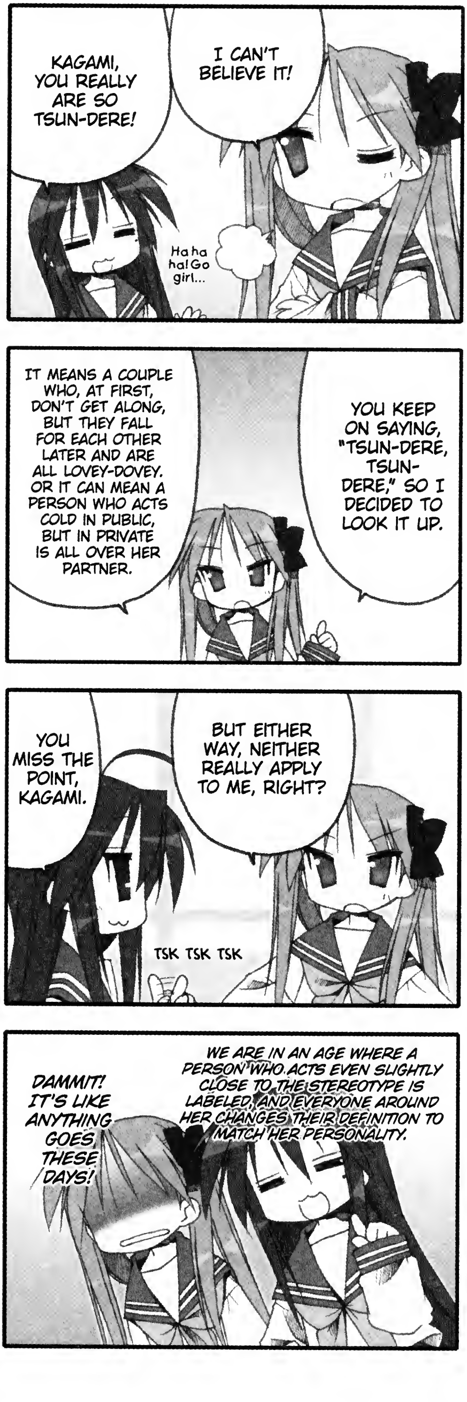
work towards the goal

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

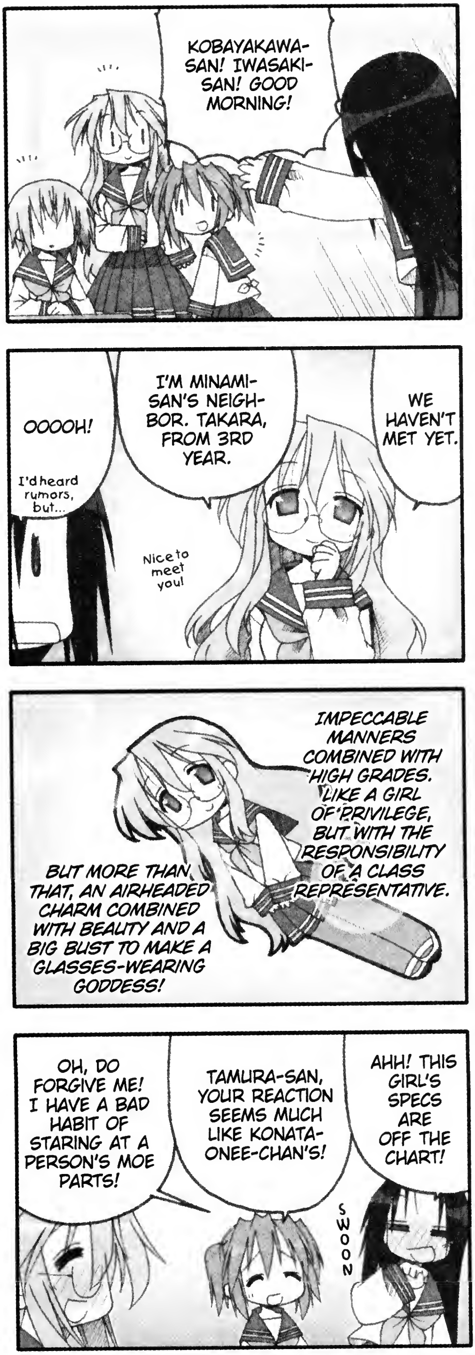
that kind of pair


YOU TWO ARE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS, HUH?
HAVE YOU EVER GOTTEN INTO A FIGHT?
OH, SURE WE HAVE! SHE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT AYANO IS SCARY WHEN SHE'S ANGRY.
Honestly, even you're teasing me, Hiiragi-chan!
I CAN SEE THAT. THAT TYPE OF PERSON IS ALL OVER, HUH?
Absolutely!
BY THE WAY, YOU'RE THE NORMALLY SCARY TYPE, HUH, HIIRAGI?
You sort of seem the type to be easily ticked off.
NG
I WAS AFRAID THAT WAS THE KIND OF STATUS I'D BEEN ASSIGNED.
I know those people are all over, but that I'd be one...
GON

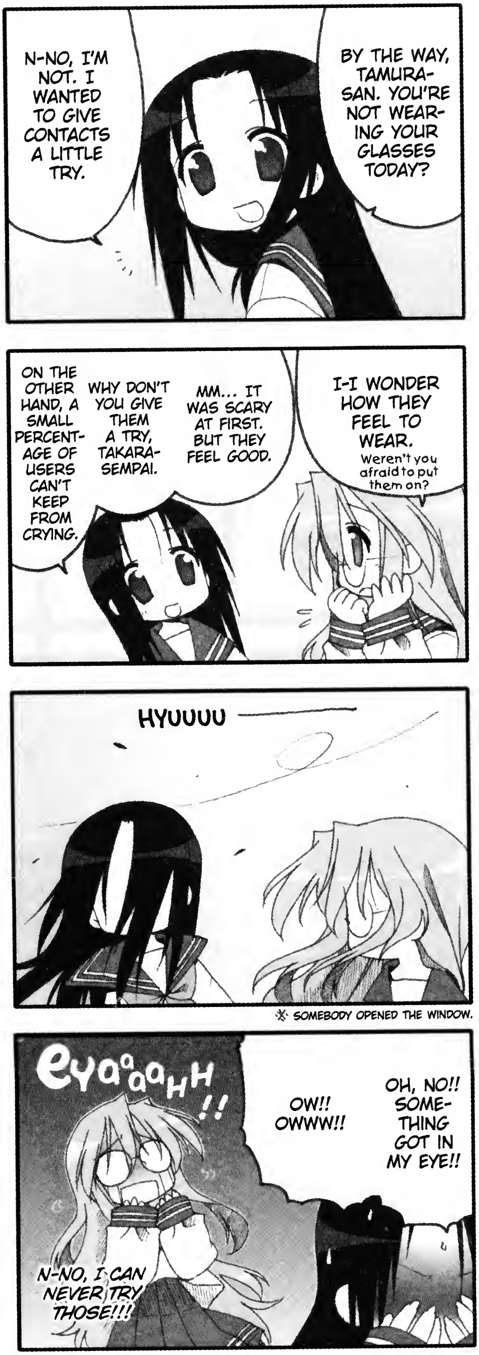
tacking it on


I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
KAGAMI, YOU REALLY ARE SO TSUN-DERE!
Ha ha ha! Go girl...
YOU KEEP ON SAYING, "TSUN-DERE, TSUN-DERE," SO I DECIDED TO LOOK IT UP.
IT MEANS A COUPLE WHO, AT FIRST, DON'T GET ALONG, BUT THEY FALL FOR EACH OTHER LATER AND ARE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY. OR IT CAN MEAN A PERSON WHO ACTS COLD IN PUBLIC, BUT IN PRIVATE IS ALL OVER HER PARTNER.
BUT EITHER WAY, NEITHER REALLY APPLY TO ME, RIGHT?
YOU MISS THE POINT, KAGAMI.
TSK TSK TSK
WE ARE IN AN AGE WHERE A PERSON WHO ACTS EVEN SLIGHTLY CLOSE TO THE STEREOTYPE IS LABELED, AND EVERYONE AROUND HER CHANGES THEIR DEFINITION TO MATCH HER PERSONALITY.
DAMMIT! IT'S LIKE ANYTHING GOES THESE DAYS!

first contact


KOBAYAKAWA-SAN! IWASAKI-SAN! GOOD MORNING!
WE HAVEN'T MET YET.
I'M MINAMI-SAN'S NEIGHBOR. TAKARA, FROM 3RD YEAR.
Nice to meet you!
OOOOH!
I'd heard rumors, but...
IMPECCABLE MANNERS COMBINED WITH HIGH GRADES. LIKE A GIRL OF PRIVILEGE, BUT WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE.
BUT MORE THAN THAT, AN AIRHEADED CHARM COMBINED WITH BEAUTY AND A BIG BUST TO MAKE A GLASSES-WEARING GODDESS!
AHH! THIS GIRL'S SPECS ARE OFF THE CHART!
SWOON
TAMURA-SAN, YOUR REACTION SEEMS MUCH LIKE KONATA-ONEE-CHAN'S!
OH, DO FORGIVE ME! I HAVE A BAD HABIT OF STARING AT A PERSON'S MOE PARTS!

sketch from hell

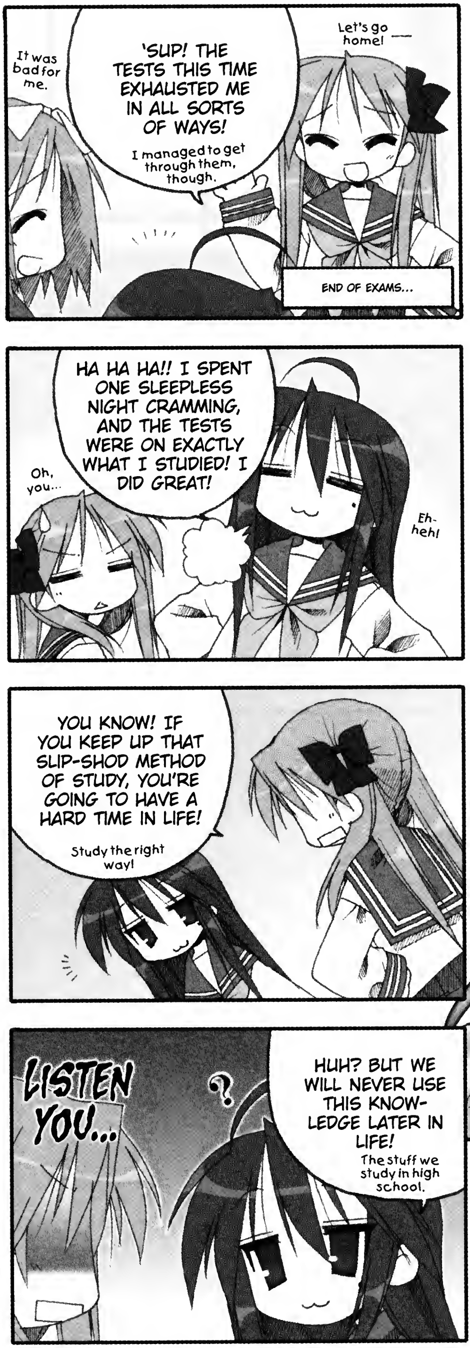

BY THE WAY, TAMURA-SAN. YOU'RE NOT WEARING YOUR GLASSES TODAY?
N-NO, I'M NOT. I WANTED TO GIVE CONTACTS A LITTLE TRY.
I-I WONDER HOW THEY FEEL TO WEAR.
Weren't you afraid to put them on?
MM... IT WAS SCARY AT FIRST. BUT THEY FEEL GOOD.
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THEM A TRY, TAKARA-SEMPAI.
ON THE OTHER HAND, A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF USERS CAN'T KEEP FROM CRYING.
HYUUUU
OH, NO!! SOMETHING GOT IN MY EYE!!
OW!! OWWW!!
eYaaaaHH!!
N-NO, I CAN NEVER TRY THOSE!!!

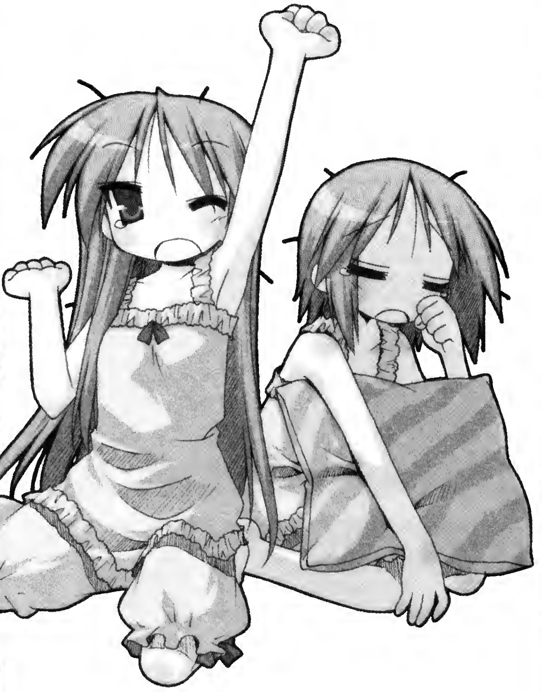
※ SOMEBODY OPENED THE WINDOW.

Lucky☆Star

episode 84
i like you just the way you are

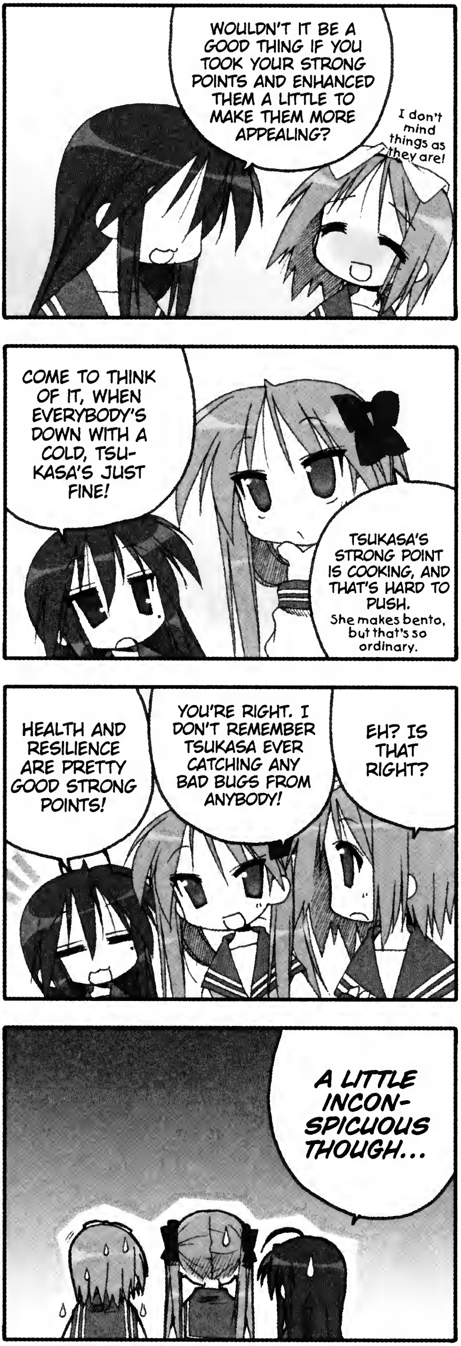
addition, subtraction, multiplication, division


Let's go home!
'SUP! THE TESTS THIS TIME EXHAUSTED ME IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS!
I managed to get through them, though.
It was bad for me.
END OF EXAMS...
HA HA HA!! I SPENT ONE SLEEPLESS NIGHT CRAMMING, AND THE TESTS WERE ON EXACTLY WHAT I STUDIED! I DID GREAT!
Eh-heh!
Oh, you...
YOU KNOW! IF YOU KEEP UP THAT SLIP-SHOD METHOD OF STUDY, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A HARD TIME IN LIFE!
Study the right way!
HUH? BUT WE WILL NEVER USE THIS KNOW-LEDGE LATER IN LIFE!
The stuff we study in high school.
?
LISTEN YOU...

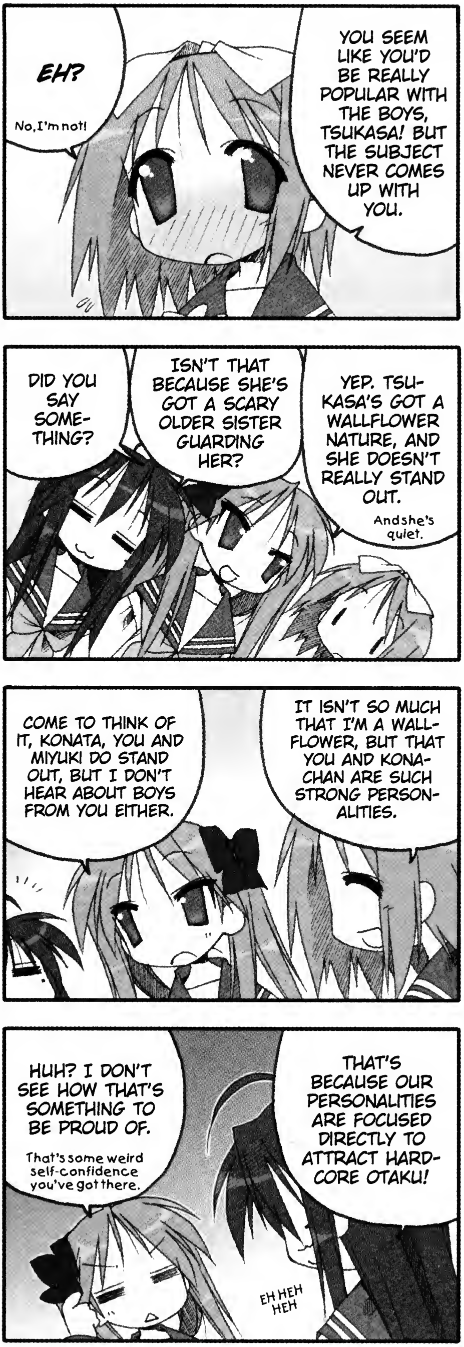


● Comp Ace Vol. 3, Extra Edition, September 2005

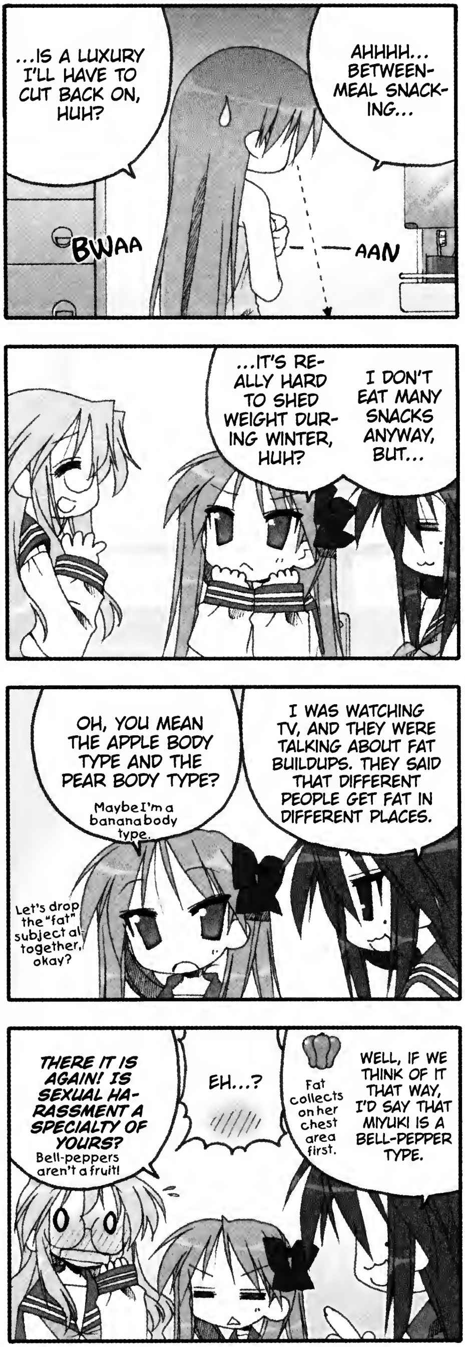
shakeout


WOULDN'T IT BE A GOOD THING IF YOU TOOK YOUR STRONG POINTS AND ENHANCED THEM A LITTLE TO MAKE THEM MORE APPEALING?
I don't mind things as they are!
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN EVERYBODY'S DOWN WITH A COLD, TSUKASA'S JUST FINE!
TSUKASA'S STRONG POINT IS COOKING, AND THAT'S HARD TO PUSH.
She makes bento, but that's so ordinary.
HEALTH AND RESILIENCE ARE PRETTY GOOD STRONG POINTS!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I DON'T REMEMBER TSUKASA EVER CATCHING ANY BAD BUGS FROM ANYBODY!
EH? IS THAT RIGHT?
A LITTLE INCONSPICUOUS THOUGH...

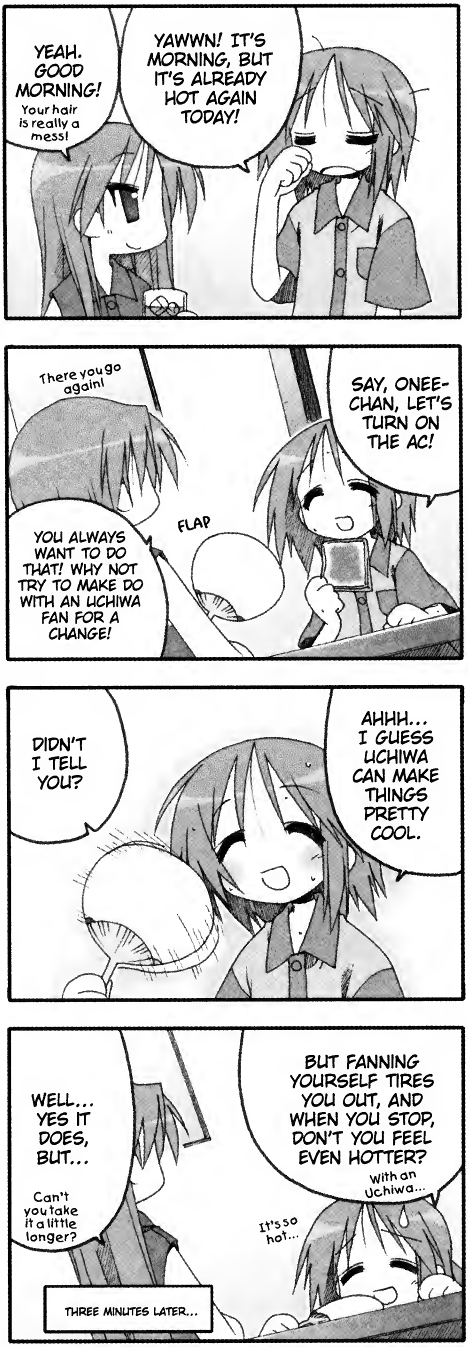
pinpoint


YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'D BE REALLY POPULAR WITH THE BOYS, TSUKASA! BUT THE SUBJECT NEVER COMES UP WITH YOU.
EH?
No, I'm not!
YEP. TSUKASA'S GOT A WALLFLOWER NATURE, AND SHE DOESN'T REALLY STAND OUT.
And she's quiet.
ISN'T THAT BECAUSE SHE'S GOT A SCARY OLDER SISTER GUARDING HER?
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
IT ISN'T SO MUCH THAT I'M A WALLFLOWER, BUT THAT YOU AND KONA-CHAN ARE SUCH STRONG PERSONALITIES.
COME TO THINK OF IT, KONATA, YOU AND MIYUKI DO STAND OUT, BUT I DON'T HEAR ABOUT BOYS FROM YOU EITHER.
THAT'S BECAUSE OUR PERSONALITIES ARE FOCUSED DIRECTLY TO ATTRACT HARDCORE OTAKU!
EH HEH HEH
HUH? I DON'T SEE HOW THAT'S SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF.
That's some weird self-confidence you've got there.

fat


AHHHH... BETWEEN-MEAL SNACKING...
...IS A LUXURY I'LL HAVE TO CUT BACK ON, HUH?
BWAA
AAN
I DON'T EAT MANY SNACKS ANYWAY, BUT...
...IT'S REALLY HARD TO SHED WEIGHT DURING WINTER, HUH?
I WAS WATCHING TV, AND THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT FAT BUILDUPS. THEY SAID THAT DIFFERENT PEOPLE GET FAT IN DIFFERENT PLACES.
OH, YOU MEAN THE APPLE BODY TYPE AND THE PEAR BODY TYPE?
Maybe I'm a banana body type.
Let's drop the "fat" subject altogether, okay?
WELL, IF WE THINK OF IT THAT WAY, I'D SAY THAT MIYUKI IS A BELL-PEPPER TYPE.
Fat collects on her chest area first.
EH...?
THERE IT IS AGAIN! IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT A SPECIALTY OF YOURS?
Bell-peppers aren't a fruit!

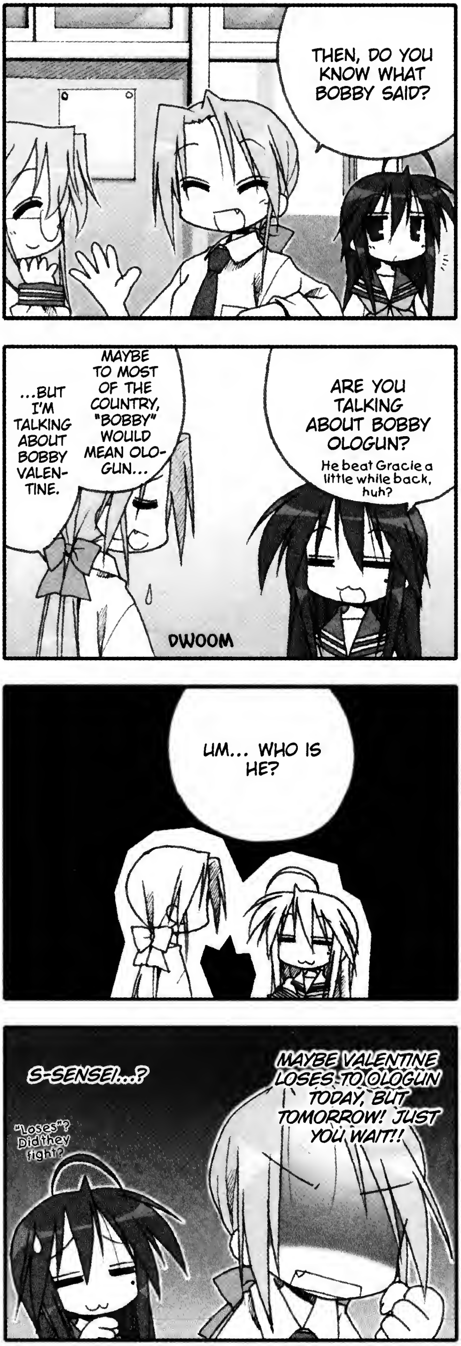
energy


YAWWN! IT'S MORNING, BUT IT'S ALREADY HOT AGAIN TODAY!
YEAH. GOOD MORNING!
Your hair is really a mess!
SAY, ONEE-CHAN, LET'S TURN ON THE AC!
There you go again!
FLAP
YOU ALWAYS WANT TO DO THAT! WHY NOT TRY TO MAKE DO WITH AN UCHIWA FAN FOR A CHANGE!
AHHH... I GUESS UCHIWA CAN MAKE THINGS PRETTY COOL.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
BUT FANNING YOURSELF TIRES YOU OUT, AND WHEN YOU STOP, DON'T YOU FEEL EVEN HOTTER?
With an Uchiwa...
It's so hot...
WELL... YES IT DOES, BUT...
Can't you take it a little longer?
THREE MINUTES LATER...

bobby

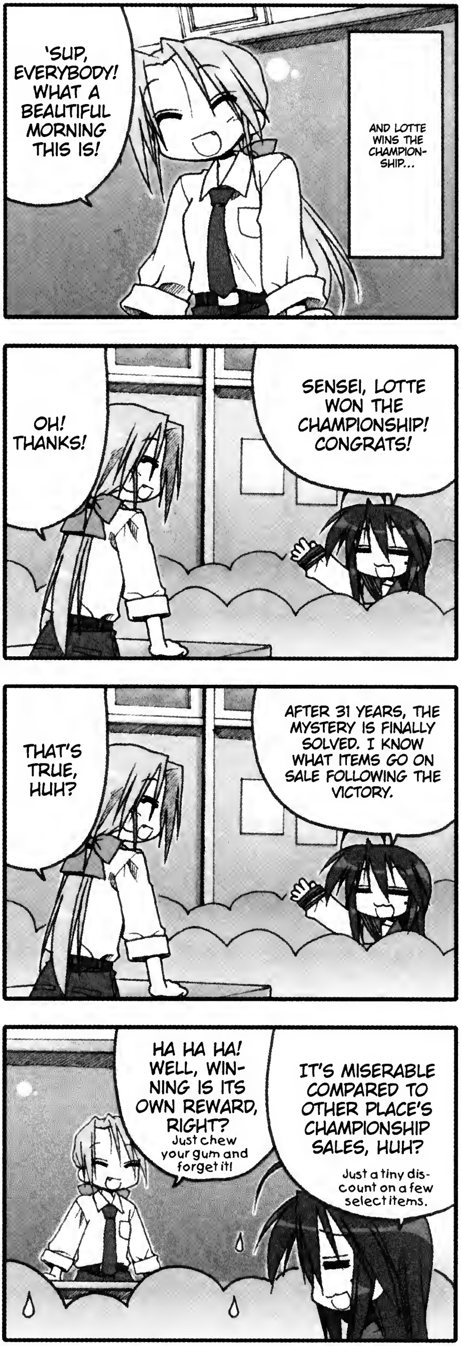
Lucky☆Star

episode 85
the curtain opens on the legend

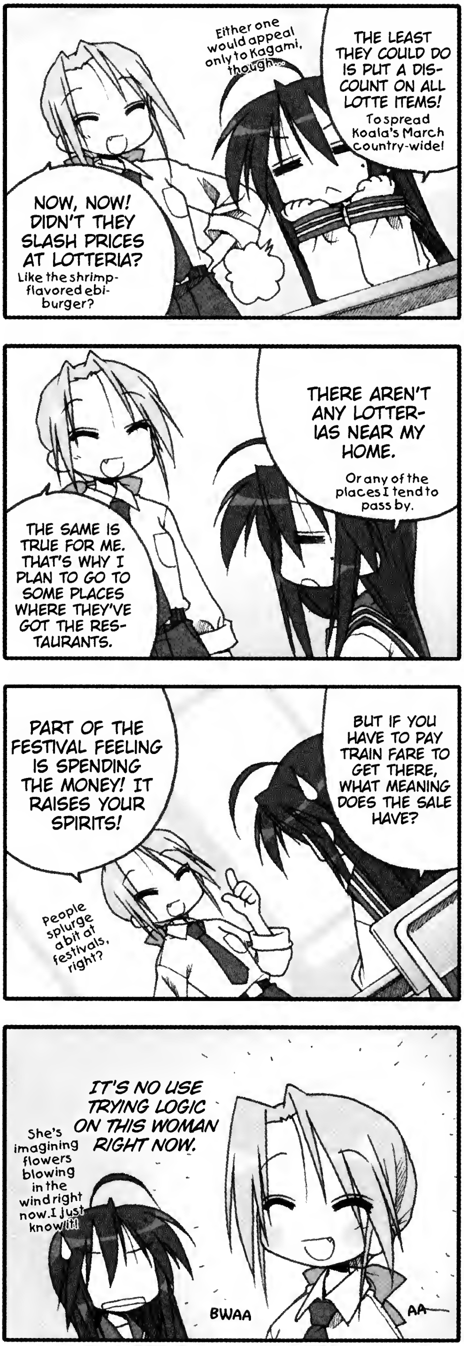

THEN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT BOBBY SAID?
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT BOBBY OLOGUN?
He beat Gracie a little while back, huh?
MAYBE TO MOST OF THE COUNTRY, "BOBBY" WOULD MEAN OLOGUN...
...BUT I'M TALKING ABOUT BOBBY VALENTINE.
DWOOM
UM... WHO IS HE?
MAYBE VALENTINE LOSES TO OLOGUN TODAY, BUT TOMORROW! JUST YOU WAIT!!
S-SENSEI...?
"Loses"? Did they fight?

● Comp Ace Vol. 4, Extra edition, November 2005

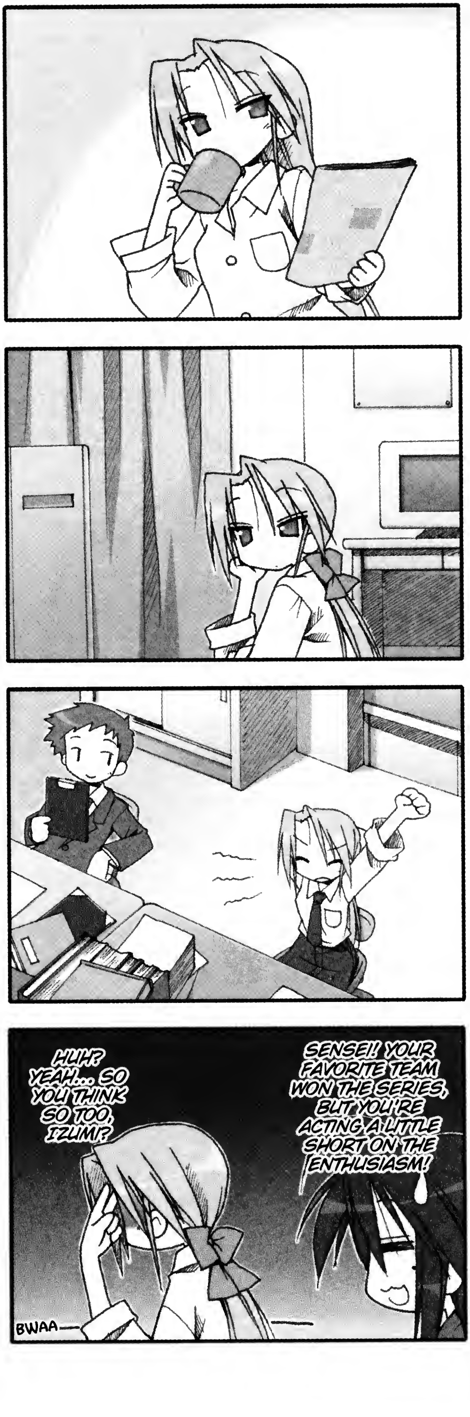
all the mysteries explained


AND LOTTE WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP...
'SUP, EVERYBODY! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNING THIS IS!
SENSEI, LOTTE WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP! CONGRATS!
OH! THANKS!
AFTER 31 YEARS, THE MYSTERY IS FINALLY SOLVED. I KNOW WHAT ITEMS GO ON SALE FOLLOWING THE VICTORY.
THAT'S TRUE, HUH?
IT'S MISERABLE COMPARED TO OTHER PLACE'S CHAMPIONSHIP SALES, HUH?
Just a tiny discount on a few select items.
HA HA HA! WELL, WINNING IS ITS OWN REWARD, RIGHT?
Just chew your gum and forget it!

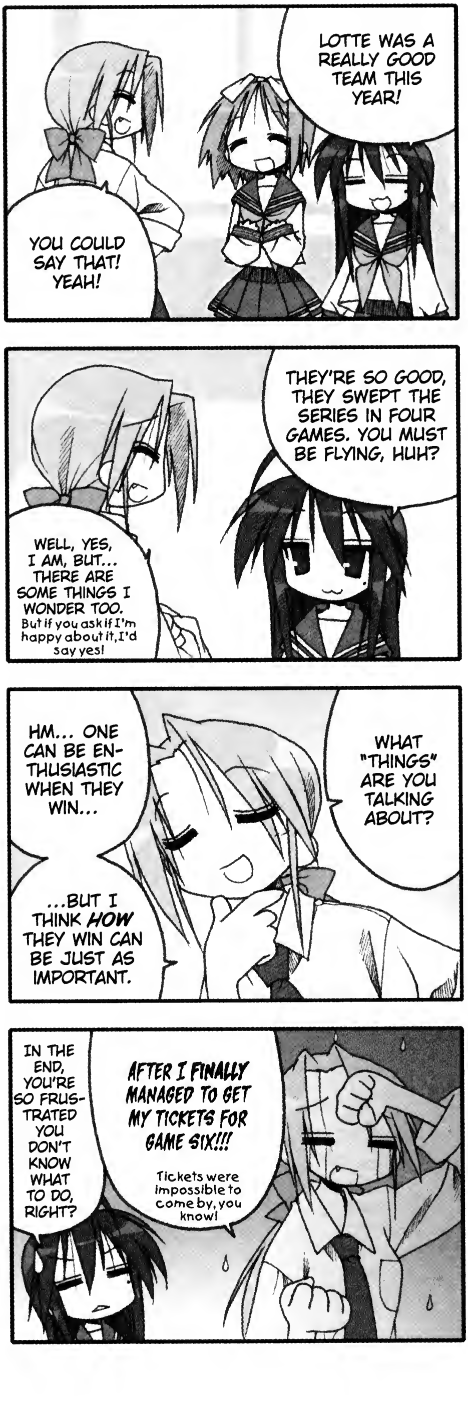
effect


THE LEAST THEY COULD DO IS PUT A DISCOUNT ON ALL LOTTE ITEMS!
To spread Koala's March country-wide!
Either one would appeal only to Kagami, though...
NOW, NOW! DIDN'T THEY SLASH PRICES AT LOTTERIA?
Like the shrimp-flavored ebi-burger?
THERE AREN'T ANY LOTTERIAS NEAR MY HOME.
Or any of the places I tend to pass by.
THE SAME IS TRUE FOR ME. THAT'S WHY I PLAN TO GO TO SOME PLACES WHERE THEY'VE GOT THE RESTAURANTS.
BUT IF YOU HAVE TO PAY TRAIN FARE TO GET THERE, WHAT MEANING DOES THE SALE HAVE?
PART OF THE FESTIVAL FEELING IS SPENDING THE MONEY! IT RAISES YOUR SPIRITS!
People splurge a bit at festivals, right?
IT'S NO USE TRYING LOGIC ON THIS WOMAN RIGHT NOW.
She's imagining flowers blowing in the wind right now. I just know it!
BWAA
AA

the curtain opens on the legend


SENSEI! YOUR FAVORITE TEAM WON THE SERIES, BUT YOU'RE ACTING A LITTLE SHORT ON THE ENTHUSIASM!
HUH? YEAH... SO YOU THINK SO TOO, IZUMI?
BWAA—

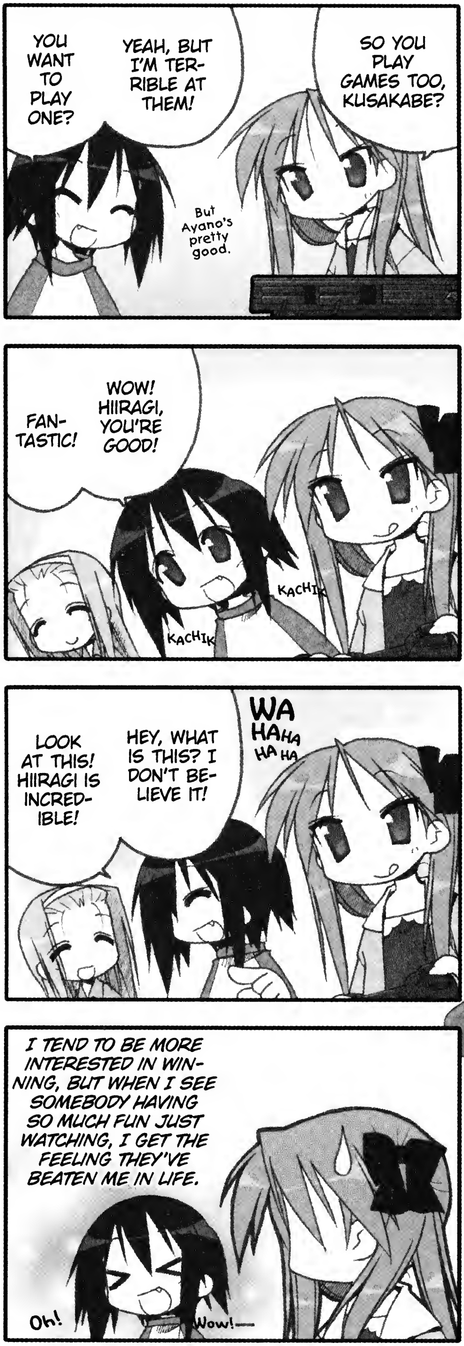
treasure


LOTTE WAS A REALLY GOOD TEAM THIS YEAR!
YOU COULD SAY THAT! YEAH!
THEY'RE SO GOOD, THEY SWEPT THE SERIES IN FOUR GAMES. YOU MUST BE FLYING, HUH?
WELL, YES, I AM, BUT... THERE ARE SOME THINGS I WONDER TOO. But if you ask if I'm happy about it, I'd say yes!
WHAT "THINGS" ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HM... ONE CAN BE ENTHUSIASTIC WHEN THEY WIN...
...BUT I THINK HOW THEY WIN CAN BE JUST AS IMPORTANT.
IN THE END, YOU'RE SO FRUSTRATED YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, RIGHT?
AFTER I FINALLY MANAGED TO GET MY TICKETS FOR GAME SIX!!!
Tickets were impossible to come by, you know!

episode 86

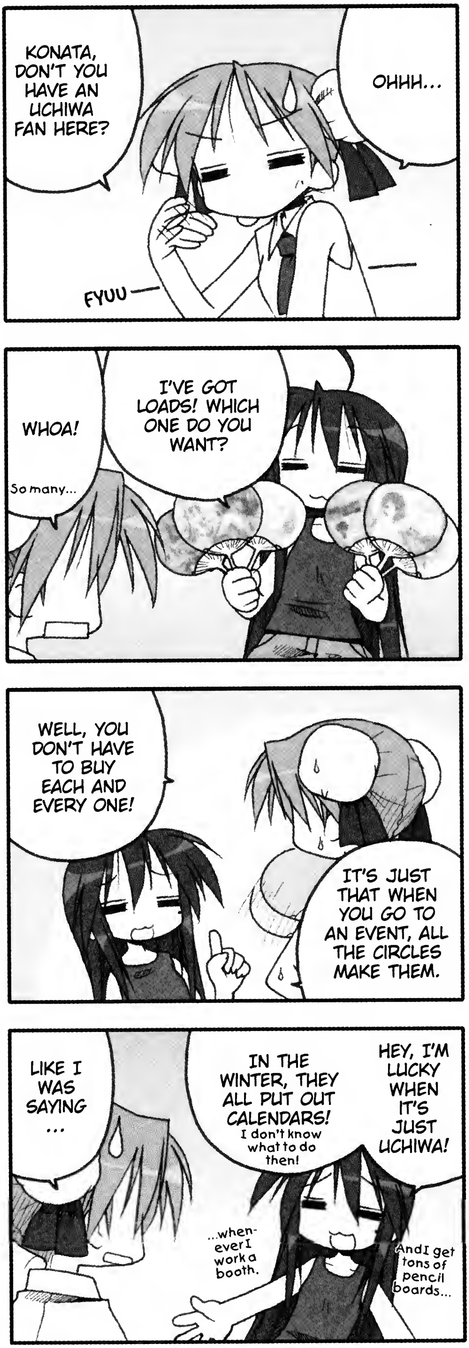
a placid early afternoon

play

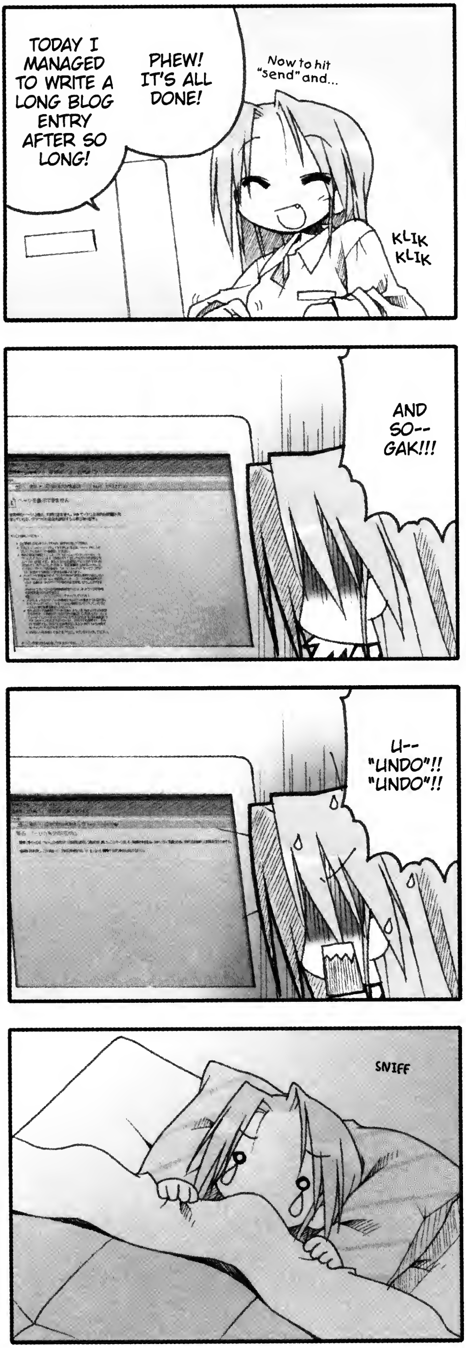

SO YOU PLAY GAMES TOO, KUSAKABE?
YEAH, BUT I'M TERRIBLE AT THEM!
YOU WANT TO PLAY ONE?
But Ayano's pretty good.
WOW! HIIRAGI, YOU'RE GOOD!
FANTASTIC!
KACHIK
KACHIK
WA HAHA HA HA
HEY, WHAT IS THIS? I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
LOOK AT THIS! HIIRAGI IS INCREDIBLE!
I TEND TO BE MORE INTERESTED IN WINNING, BUT WHEN I SEE SOMEBODY HAVING SO MUCH FUN JUST WATCHING, I GET THE FEELING THEY'VE BEATEN ME IN LIFE.
Wow!—
Oh!

●Comp Ace Vol. 4, Extra Edition, January 2006

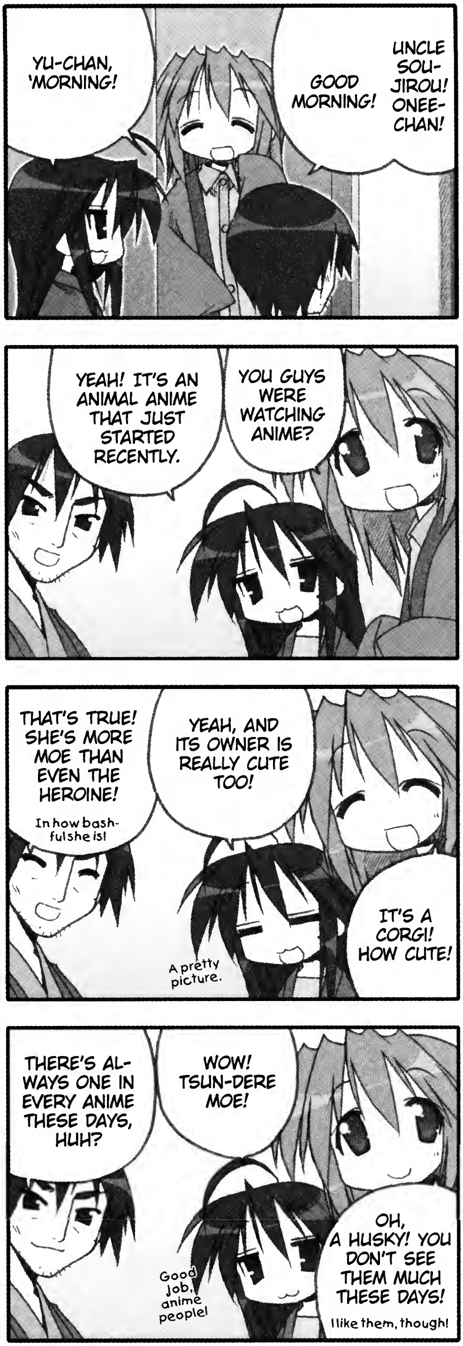
matching thoughts


OHHH...
KONATA, DON'T YOU HAVE AN UCHIWA FAN HERE?
FYUU—
I'VE GOT LOADS! WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT?
WHOA!
So many...
WELL, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BUY EACH AND EVERY ONE!
IT'S JUST THAT WHEN YOU GO TO AN EVENT, ALL THE CIRCLES MAKE THEM.
HEY, I'M LUCKY WHEN IT'S JUST UCHIWA!
And I get tons of pencil boards...
IN THE WINTER, THEY ALL PUT OUT CALENDARS! I don't know what to do then!
...whenever I work a booth.
LIKE I WAS SAYING ...

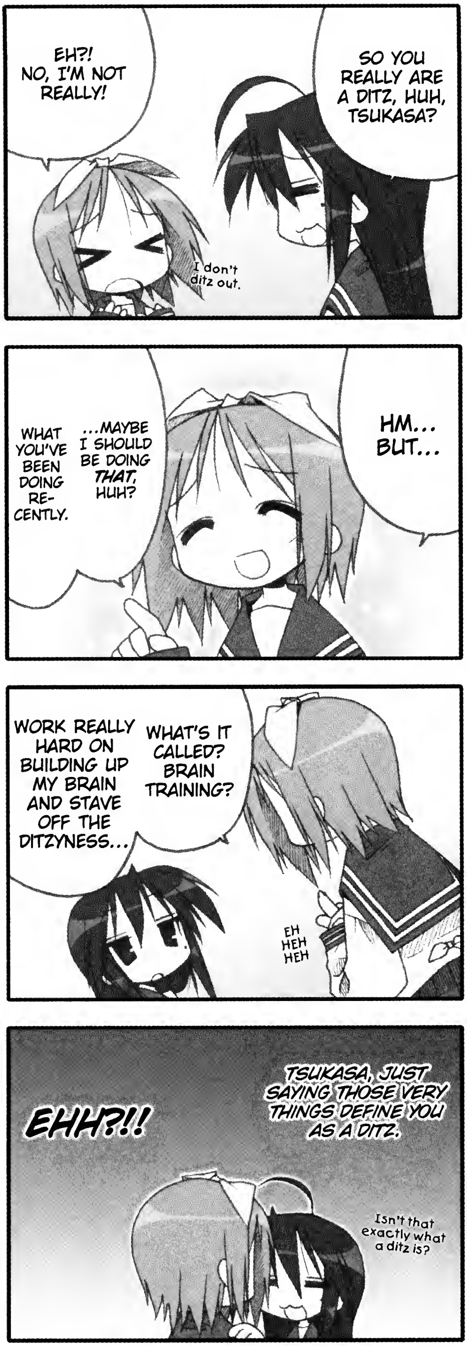
sense of loss


Now to hit "send" and...
PHEW! IT'S ALL DONE!
TODAY I MANAGED TO WRITE A LONG BLOG ENTRY AFTER SO LONG!
KLIK KLIK
AND SO-- GAK!!!
U-- "UNDO"!! "UNDO"!!
SNIFF

point of interest


UNCLE SOUJIROU! ONEE-CHAN!
GOOD MORNING!
YU-CHAN, 'MORNING!
YOU GUYS WERE WATCHING ANIME?
YEAH! IT'S AN ANIMAL ANIME THAT JUST STARTED RECENTLY.
YEAH, AND ITS OWNER IS REALLY CUTE TOO!
THAT'S TRUE! SHE'S MORE MOE THAN EVEN THE HEROINE!
In how bashful she is!
IT'S A CORGI! HOW CUTE!
A pretty picture.
WOW! TSUN-DERE MOE!
THERE'S ALWAYS ONE IN EVERY ANIME THESE DAYS, HUH?
OH, A HUSKY! YOU DON'T SEE THEM MUCH THESE DAYS!
I like them, though!
Good job, anime people!

full throttle

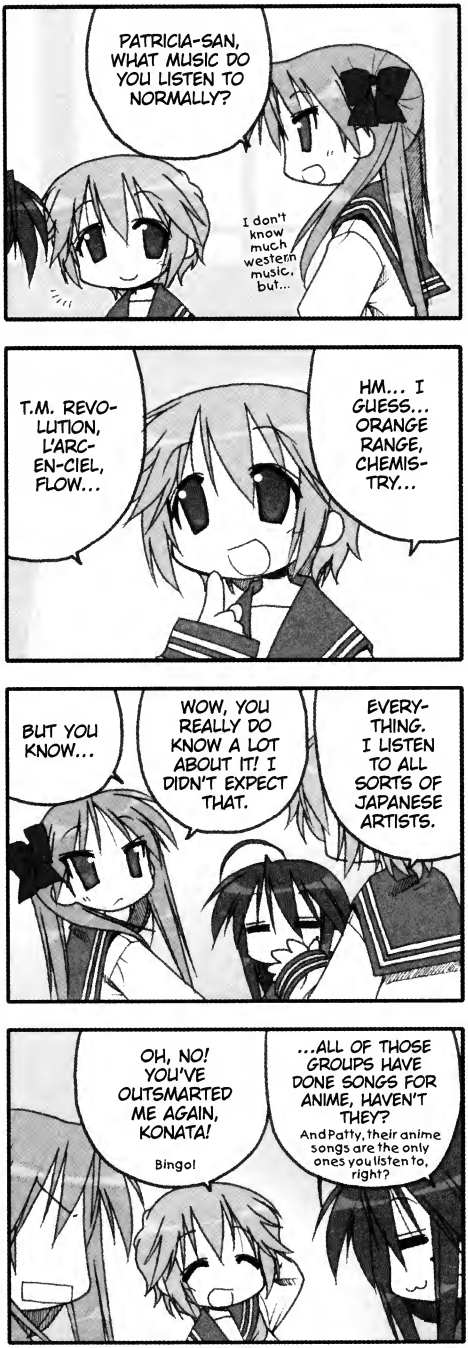

SO YOU REALLY ARE A DITZ, HUH, TSUKASA?
EH?! NO, I'M NOT REALLY!
I don't ditz out.
HM... BUT...
...MAYBE I SHOULD BE DOING THAT, HUH?
WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING RECENTLY.
WHAT'S IT CALLED? BRAIN TRAINING?
WORK REALLY HARD ON BUILDING UP MY BRAIN AND STAVE OFF THE DITZYNESS...
EH HEH HEH
TSUKASA, JUST SAYING THOSE VERY THINGS DEFINE YOU AS A DITZ.
EHH?!!
Isn't that exactly what a ditz is?

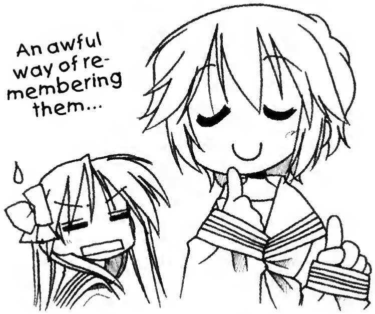
episode 87

moe drill

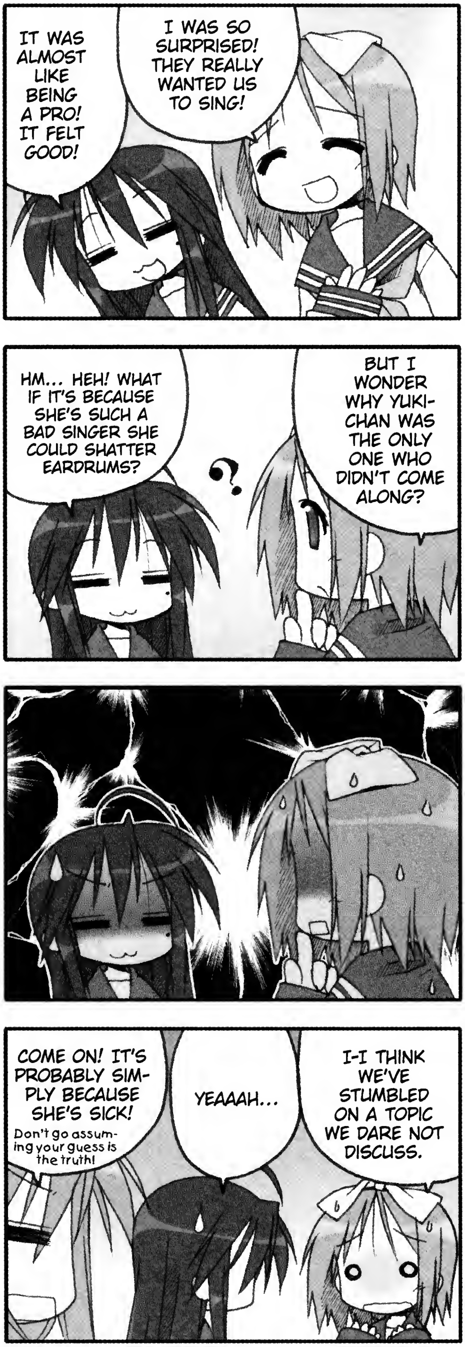
- from software for the Nintendo DS
  A collection of strips that came as a bonus when ordering the Lucky Star Moe Drill DX Pack.

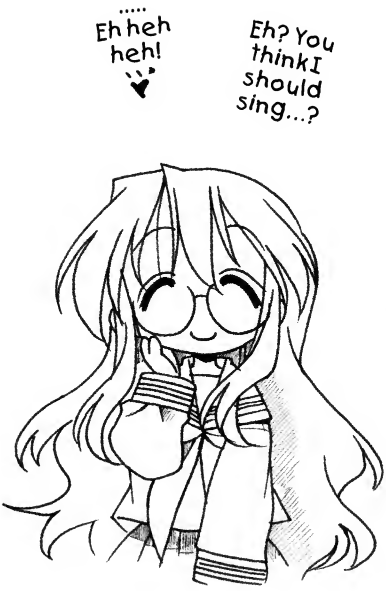
you are famous


PATRICIA-SAN, WHAT MUSIC DO YOU LISTEN TO NORMALLY?
I don't know much western music, but...
HM... I GUESS... ORANGE RANGE, CHEMISTRY...
T.M. REVOLUTION, L'ARC-EN-CIEL, FLOW...
EVERYTHING. I LISTEN TO ALL SORTS OF JAPANESE ARTISTS.
WOW, YOU REALLY DO KNOW A LOT ABOUT IT! I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT.
BUT YOU KNOW...
...ALL OF THOSE GROUPS HAVE DONE SONGS FOR ANIME, HAVEN'T THEY?
And Patty, their anime songs are the only ones you listen to, right?
OH, NO! YOU'VE OUTSMARTED ME AGAIN, KONATA!
Bingo!

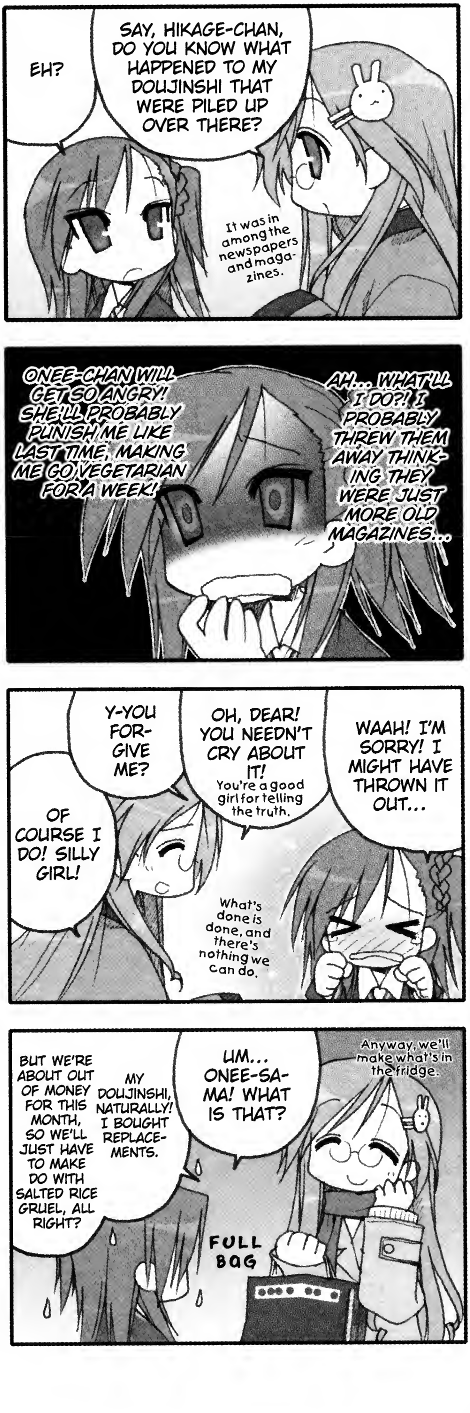

That one is a Naruto person...
...and this one is an FMA person...
...and this other one is a Gundam Seed person...
An awful way of remembering them...

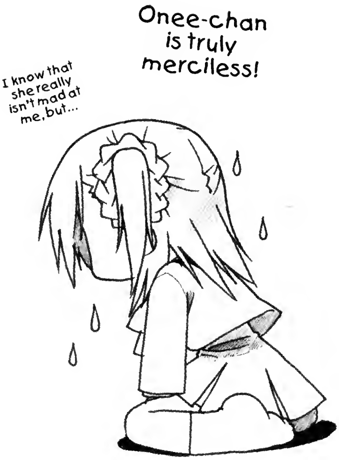
the truth about being made moe


I WAS SO SURPRISED! THEY REALLY WANTED US TO SING!
IT WAS ALMOST LIKE BEING A PRO! IT FELT GOOD!
BUT I WONDER WHY YUKI-CHAN WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T COME ALONG?
?
HM... HEH! WHAT IF IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S SUCH A BAD SINGER SHE COULD SHATTER EARDRUMS?
I-I THINK WE'VE STUMBLED ON A TOPIC WE DARE NOT DISCUSS.
YEAAAH...
COME ON! IT'S PROBABLY SIMPLY BECAUSE SHE'S SICK!
Don't go assuming your guess is the truth!

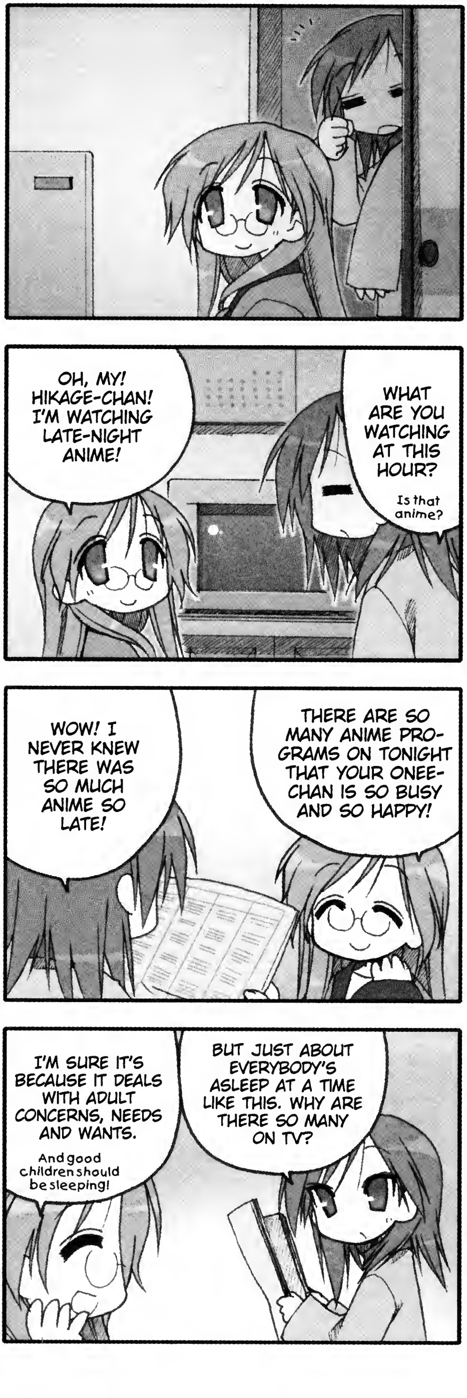

Eh? You think I should sing...?
..... Eh heh heh!

foreordained fate


SAY, HIKAGE-CHAN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DOUJINSHI THAT WERE PILED UP OVER THERE?
EH?
It was in among the newspapers and magazines.
AH... WHAT'LL I DO?! I PROBABLY THREW THEM AWAY THINKING THEY WERE JUST MORE OLD MAGAZINES...
ONEE-CHAN WILL GET SO ANGRY! SHE'LL PROBABLY PUNISH ME LIKE LAST TIME, MAKING ME GO VEGETARIAN FOR A WEEK!
WAAH! I'M SORRY! I MIGHT HAVE THROWN IT OUT...
OH, DEAR! YOU NEEDN'T CRY ABOUT IT!
You're a good girl for telling the truth.
Y-YOU FORGIVE ME?
OF COURSE I DO! SILLY GIRL!
What's done is done, and there's nothing we can do.
Anyway, we'll make what's in the fridge.
UM... ONEE-SAMA! WHAT IS THAT?
MY DOUJINSHI, NATURALLY! I BOUGHT REPLACEMENTS.
BUT WE'RE ABOUT OUT OF MONEY FOR THIS MONTH, SO WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH SALTED RICE GRUEL, ALL RIGHT?
FULL BAG

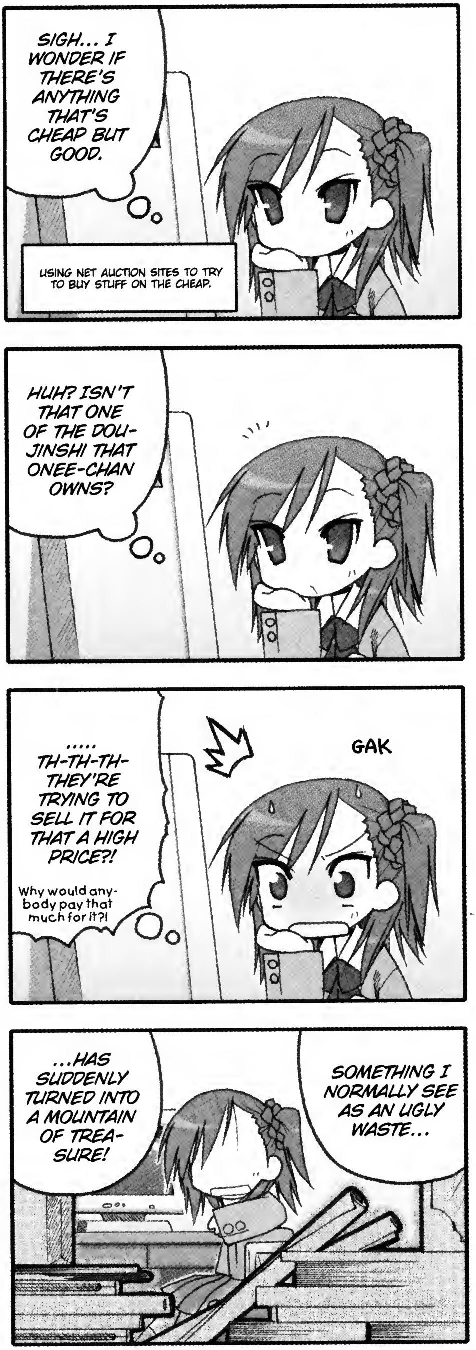

Onee-chan is truly merciless!
I know that she really isn't mad at me, but...

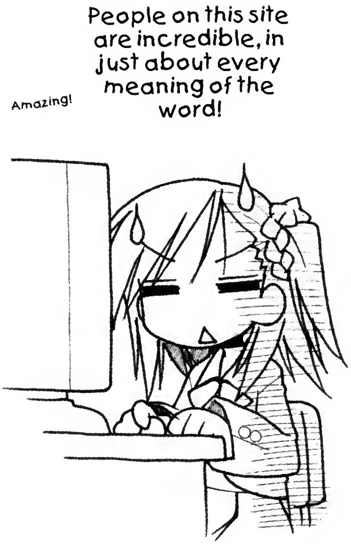
the time for ones precious friends


WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING AT THIS HOUR?
Is that anime?
OH, MY! HIKAGE-CHAN! I'M WATCHING LATE-NIGHT ANIME!
THERE ARE SO MANY ANIME PROGRAMS ON TONIGHT THAT YOUR ONEE-CHAN IS SO BUSY AND SO HAPPY!
WOW! I NEVER KNEW THERE WAS SO MUCH ANIME SO LATE!
BUT JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY'S ASLEEP AT A TIME LIKE THIS. WHY ARE THERE SO MANY ON TV?
I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE IT DEALS WITH ADULT CONCERNS, NEEDS AND WANTS.
And good children should be sleeping!

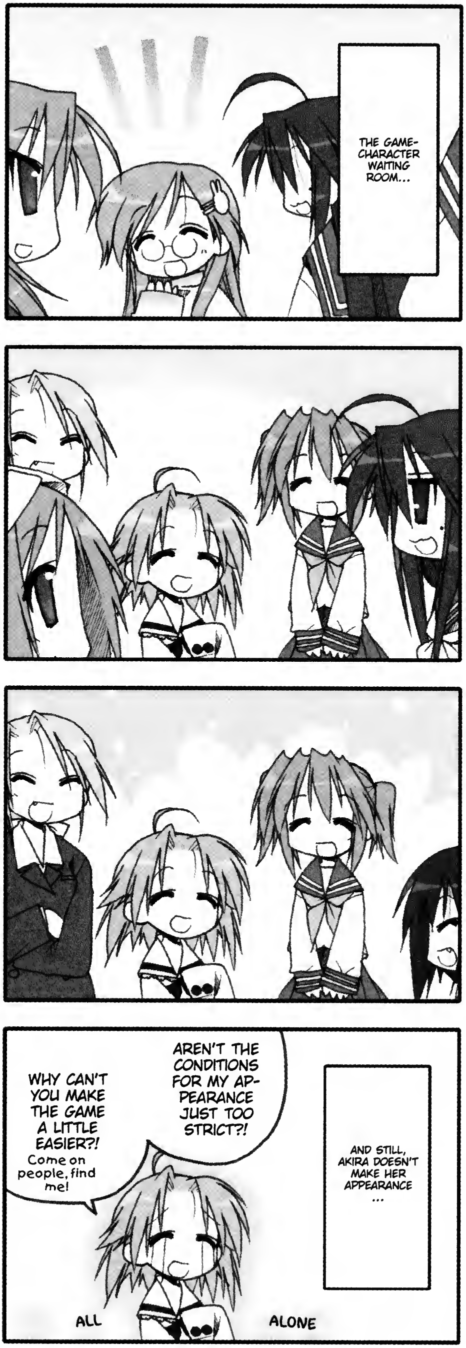
Much is graphically displayed on late-night TV! Things like blood and the underworld and panties! If good children aren't in bed by that time, they'll be punished!

koban for example, pearls for example


USING NET AUCTION SITES TO TRY TO BUY STUFF ON THE CHEAP.
SIGH... I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT'S CHEAP BUT GOOD.
HUH? ISN'T THAT ONE OF THE DOUJINSHI THAT ONEE-CHAN OWNS?
GAK
..... TH-TH-TH-THEY'RE TRYING TO SELL IT FOR THAT A HIGH PRICE?!
Why would anybody pay that much for it?!
SOMETHING I NORMALLY SEE AS AN UGLY WASTE...
...HAS SUDDENLY TURNED INTO A MOUNTAIN OF TREASURE!

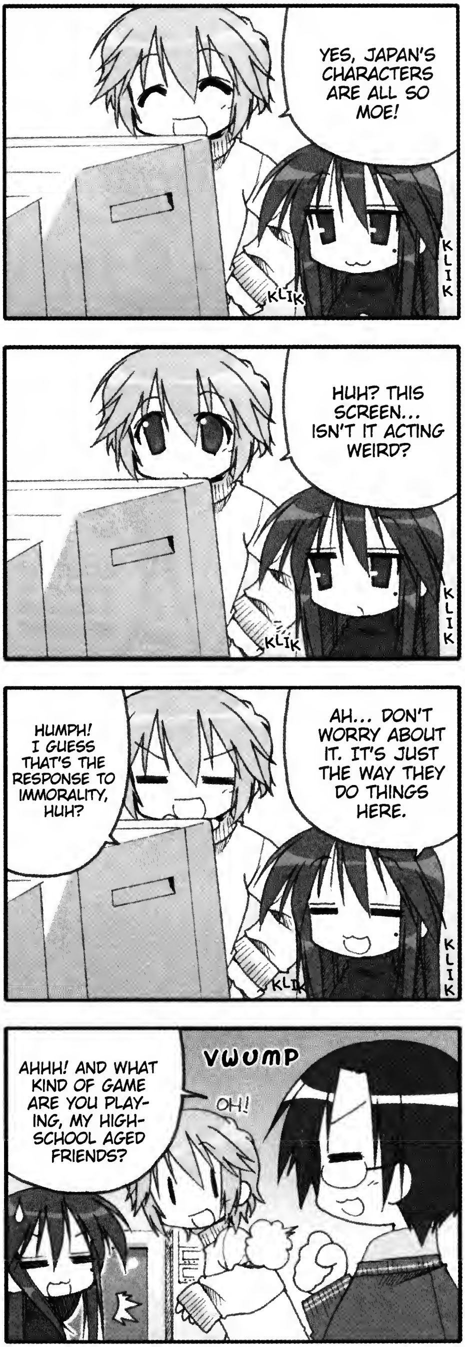

People on this site are incredible, in just about every meaning of the word!
Amazing!

secret

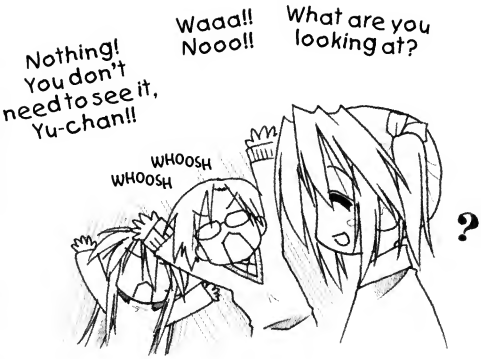

THE GAME-CHARACTER WAITING ROOM...
AND STILL, AKIRA DOESN'T MAKE HER APPEARANCE ...
AREN'T THE CONDITIONS FOR MY APPEARANCE JUST TOO STRICT?!
WHY CAN'T YOU MAKE THE GAME A LITTLE EASIER?! Come on people, find me!
ALL ALONE

If you have love in your heart, then we'll meet up!!

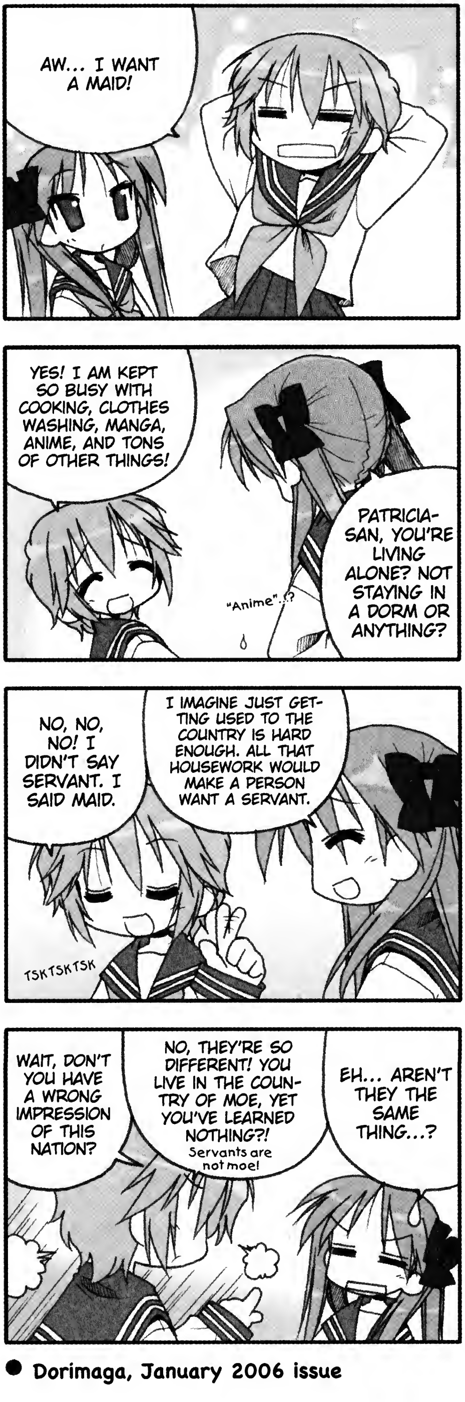
Alien Culture


YES, JAPAN'S CHARACTERS ARE ALL SO MOE!
KLIK
KLIK
HUH? THIS SCREEN... ISN'T IT ACTING WEIRD?
KLIK
KLIK
AH... DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT'S JUST THE WAY THEY DO THINGS HERE.
HUMPH! I GUESS THAT'S THE RESPONSE TO IMMORALITY, HUH?
KLIK
KLIK
VWUMP
OH!
AHHH! AND WHAT KIND OF GAME ARE YOU PLAYING, MY HIGH-SCHOOL AGED FRIENDS?

● **Free with Comptiq, February 2006 issue**
Lucky Star: Okiraku Guide Book


What are you looking at?
Waaa!! Nooo!!
Nothing! You don't need to see it, Yu-chan!!
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
?

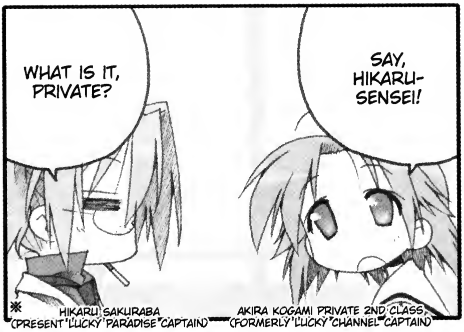
the "hot" country

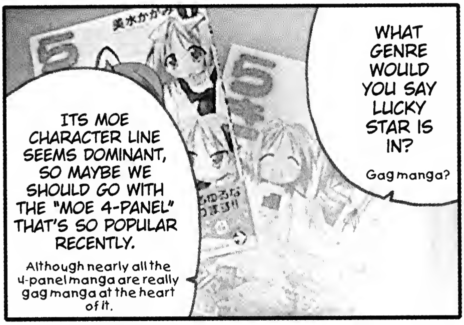

AW... I WANT A MAID!
PATRICIA-SAN, YOU'RE LIVING ALONE? NOT STAYING IN A DORM OR ANYTHING?
YES! I AM KEPT SO BUSY WITH COOKING, CLOTHES WASHING, MANGA, ANIME, AND TONS OF OTHER THINGS!
"Anime"..!?
I IMAGINE JUST GETTING USED TO THE COUNTRY IS HARD ENOUGH. ALL THAT HOUSEWORK WOULD MAKE A PERSON WANT A SERVANT.
NO, NO, NO! I DIDN'T SAY SERVANT. I SAID MAID.
TSKTSKTSK
EH... AREN'T THEY THE SAME THING...?
NO, THEY'RE SO DIFFERENT! YOU LIVE IN THE COUNTRY OF MOE, YET YOU'VE LEARNED NOTHING?!
Servants are not moe!
WAIT, DON'T YOU HAVE A WRONG IMPRESSION OF THIS NATION?

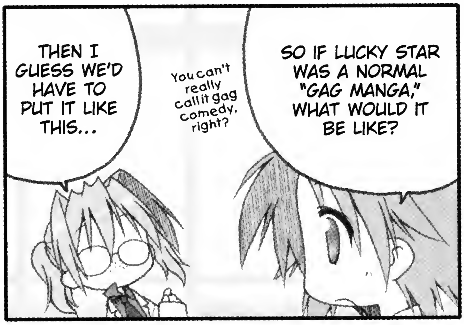
● **Dorimaga, January 2006 issue**

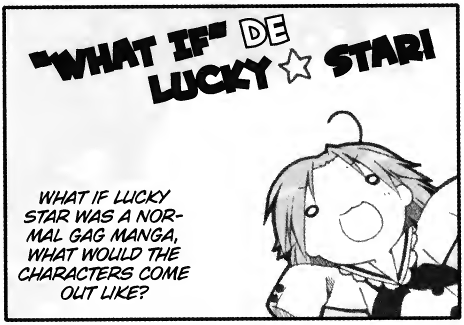
I interpret it this way.
Servant -> Someone who helps.
Maid -> Someone who makes us feel happy.

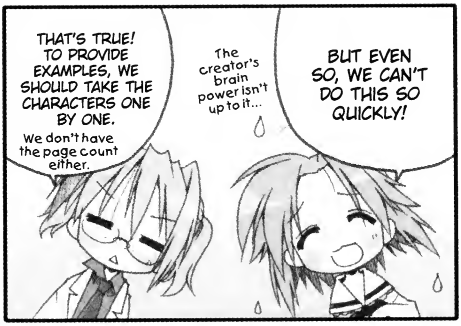
Special
extras

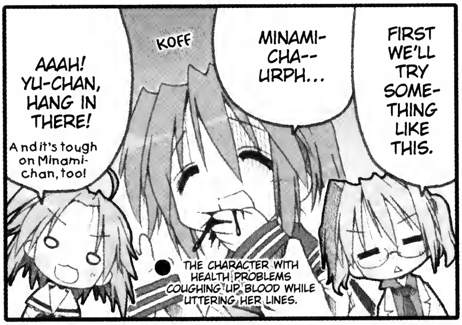

SAY, HIKARU-SENSEI!
WHAT IS IT, PRIVATE?
※ HIKARU SAKURABA (PRESENT 'LUCKY PARADISE' CAPTAIN)
AKIRA KOGAMI PRIVATE 2ND CLASS (FORMERLY 'LUCKY CHANNEL' CAPTAIN)

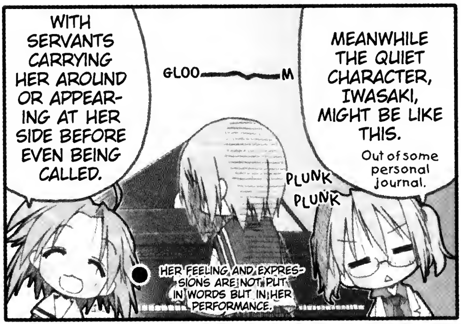

WHAT GENRE WOULD YOU SAY LUCKY STAR IS IN?
Gag manga?
ITS MOE CHARACTER LINE SEEMS DOMINANT, SO MAYBE WE SHOULD GO WITH THE "MOE 4-PANEL" THAT'S SO POPULAR RECENTLY.
Although nearly all the 4-panel manga are really gag manga at the heart of it.

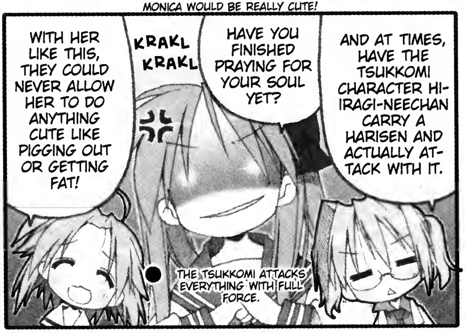

SO IF LUCKY STAR WAS A NORMAL "GAG MANGA," WHAT WOULD IT BE LIKE?
You can't really call it gag comedy, right?
THEN I GUESS WE'D HAVE TO PUT IT LIKE THIS...

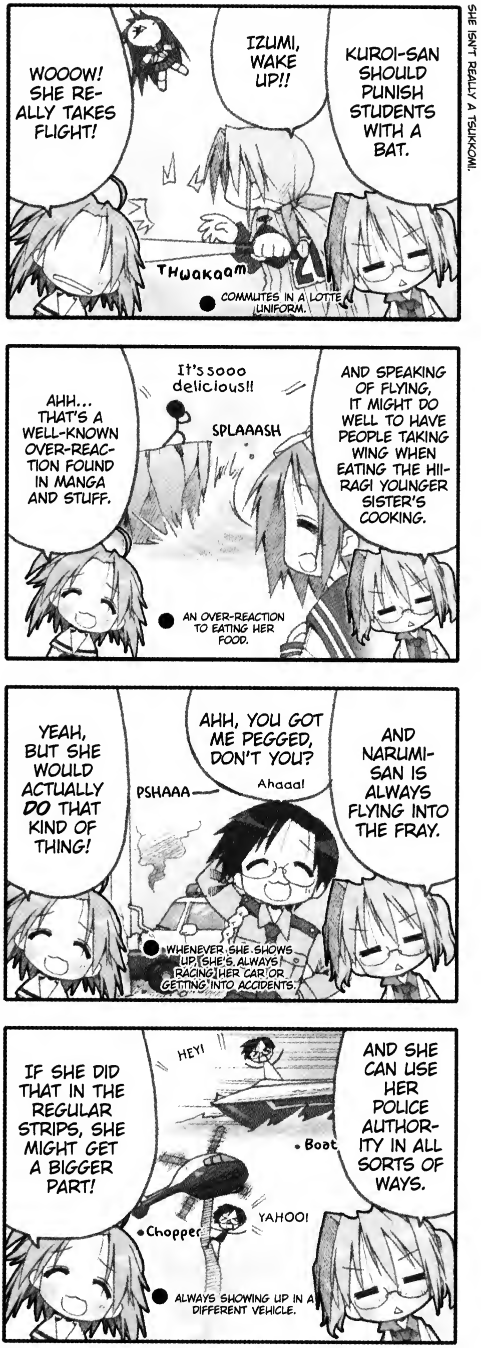

"WHAT IF" DE LUCKY ☆ STAR!
WHAT IF LUCKY STAR WAS A NORMAL GAG MANGA, WHAT WOULD THE CHARACTERS COME OUT LIKE?

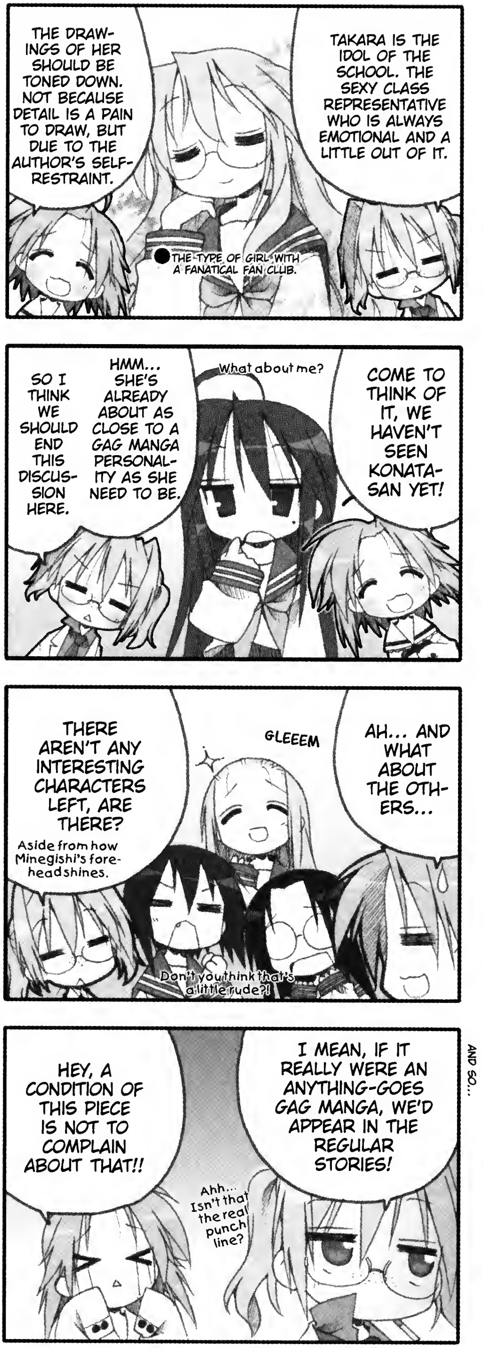

BUT EVEN SO, WE CAN'T DO THIS SO QUICKLY!
The creator's brain power isn't up to it...
THAT'S TRUE! TO PROVIDE EXAMPLES, WE SHOULD TAKE THE CHARACTERS ONE BY ONE.
We don't have the page count either.


FIRST WE'LL TRY SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
MINAMI-CHA-- URPH...
KOFF
AAAH! YU-CHAN, HANG IN THERE!
And it's tough on Minami-chan, too!
● THE CHARACTER WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS COUGHING UP BLOOD WHILE UTTERING HER LINES.

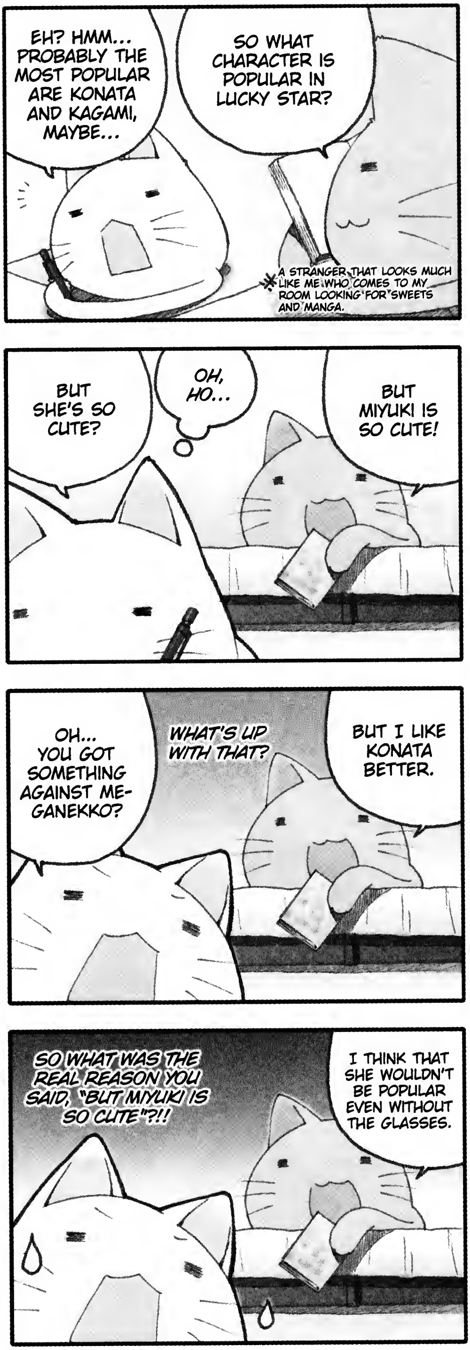

MEANWHILE THE QUIET CHARACTER, IWASAKI, MIGHT BE LIKE THIS.
Out of some personal journal.
GLOO———M
PLUNK PLUNK
WITH SERVANTS CARRYING HER AROUND OR APPEARING AT HER SIDE BEFORE EVEN BEING CALLED.
● HER FEELING AND EXPRESSIONS ARE NOT PUT IN WORDS BUT IN HER PERFORMANCE.
THEME MUSIC PLAYED ON A HARMONICA WOULD BE REALLY CUTE!


AND AT TIMES, HAVE THE TSUKKOMI CHARACTER HIIRAGI-NEECHAN CARRY A HARISEN AND ACTUALLY ATTACK WITH IT.
HAVE YOU FINISHED PRAYING FOR YOUR SOUL YET?
KRAKL KRAKL
WITH HER LIKE THIS, THEY COULD NEVER ALLOW HER TO DO ANYTHING CUTE LIKE PIGGING OUT OR GETTING FAT!
● THE TSUKKOMI ATTACKS EVERYTHING WITH FULL FORCE.

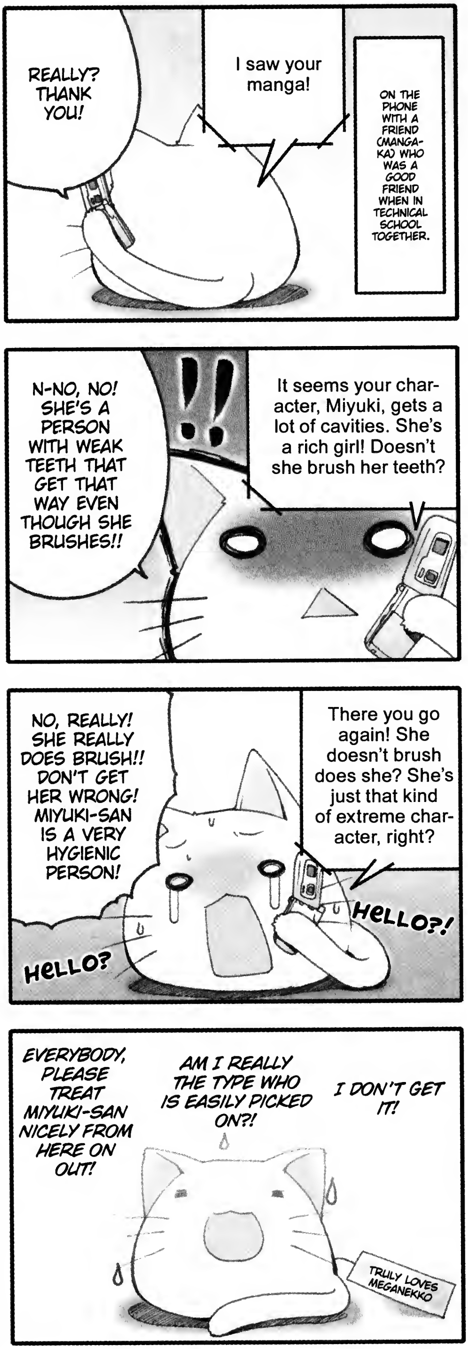

KUROI-SAN SHOULD PUNISH STUDENTS WITH A BAT.
IZUMI, WAKE UP!!
WOOOW! SHE REALLY TAKES FLIGHT!
THWAKAAM
COMMUTES IN A LOTTE UNIFORM.
SHE ISN'T REALLY A TSUKKOMI.
AND SPEAKING OF FLYING, IT MIGHT DO WELL TO HAVE PEOPLE TAKING WING WHEN EATING THE HIIRAGI YOUNGER SISTER'S COOKING.
It's sooo delicious!!
SPLAAASH
AHH... THAT'S A WELL-KNOWN OVER-REACTION FOUND IN MANGA AND STUFF.
AN OVER-REACTION TO EATING HER FOOD.
AND NARUMI-SAN IS ALWAYS FLYING INTO THE FRAY.
AHH, YOU GOT ME PEGGED, DON'T YOU?
Ahaaa!
PSHAAA
YEAH, BUT SHE WOULD ACTUALLY DO THAT KIND OF THING!
WHENEVER SHE SHOWS UP, SHE'S ALWAYS RACING HER CAR OR GETTING INTO ACCIDENTS.
AND SHE CAN USE HER POLICE AUTHORITY IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS.
HEY!
Boat
YAHOO!
Chopper
IF SHE DID THAT IN THE REGULAR STRIPS, SHE MIGHT GET A BIGGER PART!
ALWAYS SHOWING UP IN A DIFFERENT VEHICLE.

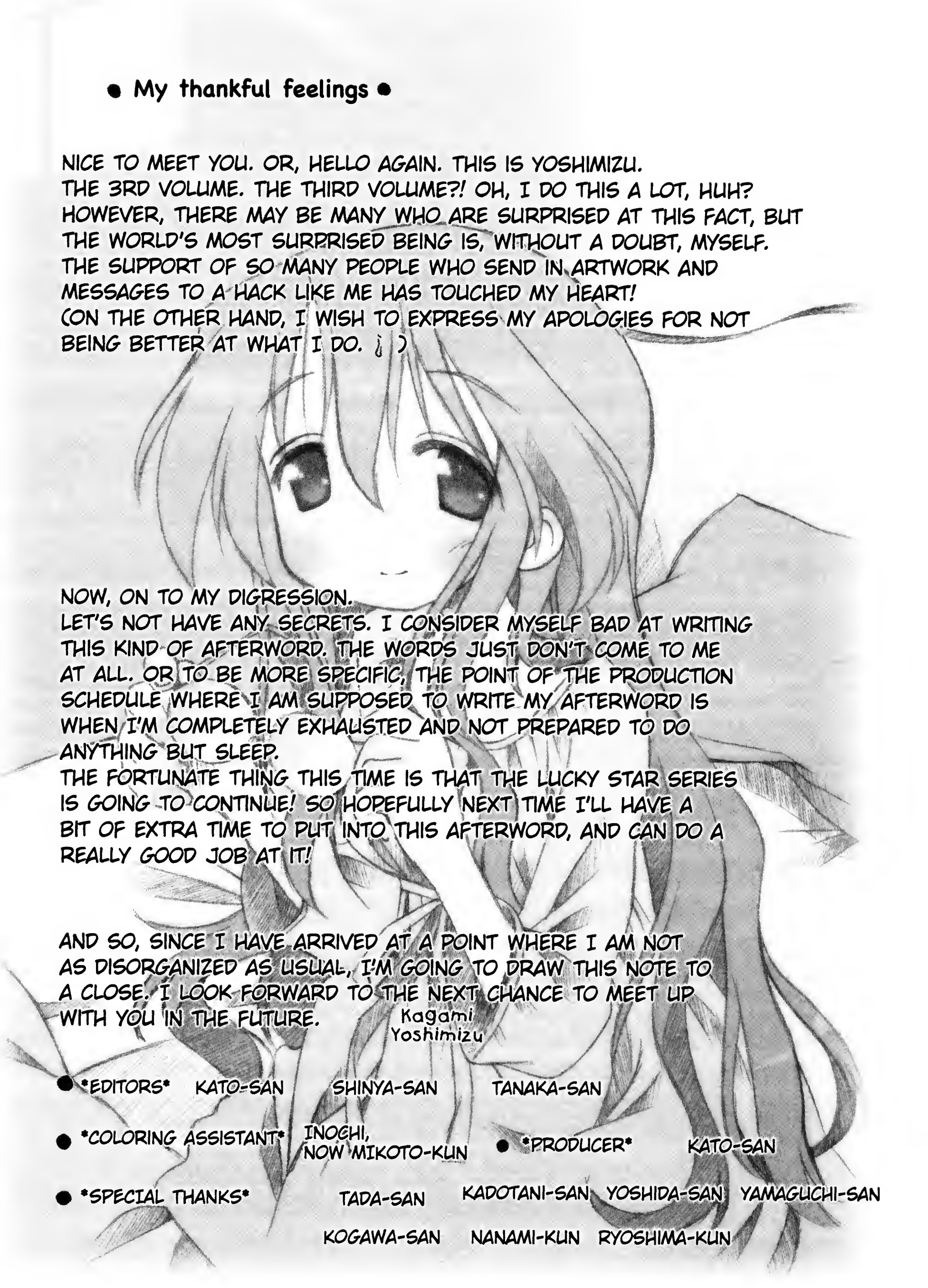

TAKARA IS THE IDOL OF THE SCHOOL. THE SEXY CLASS REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS ALWAYS EMOTIONAL AND A LITTLE OUT OF IT.
THE DRAWINGS OF HER SHOULD BE TONED DOWN. NOT BECAUSE DETAIL IS A PAIN TO DRAW, BUT DUE TO THE AUTHOR'S SELF-RESTRAINT.
THE TYPE OF GIRL WITH A FANATICAL FAN CLUB.
COME TO THINK OF IT, WE HAVEN'T SEEN KONATA-SAN YET!
What about me?
HMM... SHE'S ALREADY ABOUT AS CLOSE TO A GAG MANGA PERSONALITY AS SHE NEED TO BE.
SO I THINK WE SHOULD END THIS DISCUSSION HERE.
AH... AND WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS...
GLEEEM
THERE AREN'T ANY INTERESTING CHARACTERS LEFT, ARE THERE?
Aside from how Minegishi's forehead shines.
Don't you think that's a little rude?!
AND SO...
I MEAN, IF IT REALLY WERE AN ANYTHING-GOES GAG MANGA, WE'D APPEAR IN THE REGULAR STORIES!
Ahh... Isn't that the real punch line?
HEY, A CONDITION OF THIS PIECE IS NOT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THAT!!

neither rain nor wind


SO WHAT CHARACTER IS POPULAR IN LUCKY STAR?
EH? HMM... PROBABLY THE MOST POPULAR ARE KONATA AND KAGAMI, MAYBE...
※A STRANGER THAT LOOKS MUCH LIKE ME WHO COMES TO MY ROOM LOOKING FOR SWEETS AND MANGA.
BUT MIYUKI IS SO CUTE!
OH, HO...
BUT SHE'S SO CUTE?
BUT I LIKE KONATA BETTER.
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
OH... YOU GOT SOMETHING AGAINST ME-GANEKKO?
I THINK THAT SHE WOULDN'T BE POPULAR EVEN WITHOUT THE GLASSES.
SO WHAT WAS THE REAL REASON YOU SAID, "BUT MIYUKI IS SO CUTE"?!!

being picked on


ON THE PHONE WITH A FRIEND (MANGA-KA) WHO WAS A GOOD FRIEND WHEN IN TECHNICAL SCHOOL TOGETHER.
I saw your manga!
REALLY? THANK YOU!
It seems your character, Miyuki, gets a lot of cavities. She's a rich girl! Doesn't she brush her teeth?
!!
N-NO, NO! SHE'S A PERSON WITH WEAK TEETH THAT GET THAT WAY EVEN THOUGH SHE BRUSHES!!
There you go again! She doesn't brush does she? She's just that kind of extreme character, right?
HELLO?!
NO, REALLY! SHE REALLY DOES BRUSH!! DON'T GET HER WRONG! MIYUKI-SAN IS A VERY HYGIENIC PERSON!
HELLO?
I DON'T GET IT!
AM I REALLY THE TYPE WHO IS EASILY PICKED ON?!
EVERYBODY, PLEASE TREAT MIYUKI-SAN NICELY FROM HERE ON OUT!
TRULY LOVES MEGANEKKO



● My thankful feelings ●

NICE TO MEET YOU. OR, HELLO AGAIN. THIS IS YOSHIMIZU.
THE 3RD VOLUME. THE THIRD VOLUME?! OH, I DO THIS A LOT, HUH?
HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE MANY WHO ARE SURPRISED AT THIS FACT, BUT THE WORLD'S MOST SURPRISED BEING IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, MYSELF.
THE SUPPORT OF SO MANY PEOPLE WHO SEND IN ARTWORK AND MESSAGES TO A HACK LIKE ME HAS TOUCHED MY HEART!
(ON THE OTHER HAND, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY APOLOGIES FOR NOT BEING BETTER AT WHAT I DO.)

NOW, ON TO MY DIGRESSION.
LET'S NOT HAVE ANY SECRETS. I CONSIDER MYSELF BAD AT WRITING THIS KIND OF AFTERWORD. THE WORDS JUST DON'T COME TO ME AT ALL. OR TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, THE POINT OF THE PRODUCTION SCHEDULE WHERE I AM SUPPOSED TO WRITE MY AFTERWORD IS WHEN I'M COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED AND NOT PREPARED TO DO ANYTHING BUT SLEEP.
THE FORTUNATE THING THIS TIME IS THAT THE LUCKY STAR SERIES IS GOING TO CONTINUE! SO HOPEFULLY NEXT TIME I'LL HAVE A BIT OF EXTRA TIME TO PUT INTO THIS AFTERWORD, AND CAN DO A REALLY GOOD JOB AT IT!

AND SO, SINCE I HAVE ARRIVED AT A POINT WHERE I AM NOT AS DISORGANIZED AS USUAL, I'M GOING TO DRAW THIS NOTE TO A CLOSE. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT CHANCE TO MEET UP WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE.

Kagami
Yoshimizu

● *EDITORS* KATO-SAN SHINYA-SAN TANAKA-SAN

● *COLORING ASSISTANT* INOCHI, NOW MIKOTO-KUN ● *PRODUCER* KATO-SAN

● *SPECIAL THANKS* TADA-SAN KADOTANI-SAN YOSHIDA-SAN YAMAGUCHI-SAN KOGAWA-SAN NANAMI-KUN RYOSHIMA-KUN

TRANSLATOR NOTES

P.15 ***PUDDING*** WHEREAS AMERICANS MIGHT CONJURE UP IMAGES OF INSTANT PUDDING WHEN HEARING THE WORD, THE JAPANESE CONJURE UP A CUSTARD-LIKE DESERT WITH A CARAMEL-COLORED SWEET SAUCE TOPPING ALL MADE IN THE SHAPE OF AN INVERTED ROUNDED CUP.

P.16 ***YOSHIKO*** A SERIES OF COMMERCIALS FOR LOTTE GREEN GUM FEATURED ACTRESS RINKO KIKUCHI AS A NORMAL OL (OFFICE LADY) WHO INTERACTS WITH CHIBA LOTTE MARINES PLAYERS IN VARIOUS SITUATIONS. ONE FAMOUS COMMERCIAL HAS HER SITTING ON THE LOTTE BENCH NEXT TO HEAD COACH BOBBY VALENTINE DURING A GAME. A CERTAIN GROUP OF LOTTE FANS DUBBED HER THE "*GODDESS*" WHO LEAD THE MARINES TO THEIR EVENTUAL WINS IN THE JAPAN SERIES AND ASIA SERIES.

SAKURA TIME THIS WAS WHEN THE EXTREMELY POPULAR ANIME, CARD CAPTOR SAKURA, WAS PLAYING ON THE JAPANESE PUBLIC TV NETWORK, NHK.

P.18 ***QUIZ SHOWS*** UNLIKE AMERICAN GAME SHOWS THAT USE AVERAGE PEOPLE, JAPANESE QUIZ SHOWS USE PROFESSIONAL TV TALENT, ACTORS, COMMENTATORS, AND NEWS-PEOPLE AS THEIR CONTESTANTS. AND SINCE THE GUESTS ON QUIZ SHOWS AND VARIETY SHOWS OVERLAP SO MUCH, ONE USUALLY FINDS QUIZZES TAKING PLACE IN THE MIDDLE OF VARIETY SHOWS.

P.19 ***'SUP*** "'SUP" IS THIS TRANSLATION'S REPLACEMENT FOR THE GREETING OSU. THIRTY OR FORTY YEARS AGO, *OSU* (USUALLY PRONOUNCED "OHSS") WAS A GREETING AND AFFIRMATION (LIKE "YES, SIR!") RESERVED FOR PEOPLE IN TOUGH, MALE-DOMINATED SPORTS SUCH AS WRESTLING, MARTIAL ARTS, KENDO, AND SUCH. SINCE THEN, THE GREETING HAS SPREAD TO JUST ABOUT ALL SECTORS OF CASUAL SOCIETY. IT STILL HAS A ROUGH SOUND TO IT, AND ONE WOULD NOT USE IT IN POLITE COMPANY, BUT AMONG JAPANESE HIGH-SCHOOL GIRLS, IT'S A PERFECTLY FINE GREETING.

P.20 ***SUMMER HOMEWORK*** AS MENTIONED IN EARLIER NOTES, THE JAPANESE SCHOOL YEAR STARTS IN EARLY SPRING, AND SO THE SUMMER VACATION IS SIMPLY A MONTH AND A HALF BREAK BETWEEN SEMESTERS. QUITE A LOT OF HOMEWORK IS ASSIGNED OVER THE MONTH WITH THE IDEA THAT THE STUDENT IS SUPPOSED TO RATION THE HOMEWORK AND COMPLETE A LITTLE EACH DAY. OF COURSE, STUDENTS RARELY CHOOSE THIS COURSE INSTEAD RUSHING TO DO AND FINISH THEIR ASSIGNMENTS IN THE FINAL WEEK OF VACATION.

P21 ***TSUKKOMI*** IN THE TRADITIONAL 2-PERSON MANZAI STYLE OF STAND-UP COMEDY, ONE PERSON IS THE *BOKE* (DUMB GUY) AND THE ONE MOST COMMONLY THOUGHT OF IN WESTERN COMEDY TERMS AS THE STRAIGHT MAN IS THE *TSUKKOMI* (ANGRY GUY) PART. UNLIKE WESTERN STRAIGHT MEN, THE TSUKKOMI GETS ALMOST AS MANY LAUGHS AS THE BOKE BY POINTING OUT DIFFERENT THINGS THAT ARE WRONG WITH WHAT THE *BOKE* JUST SAID.

P.24 ***FUTAE-NO-KIWAMI AND DEMPSEY ROLL*** THE FUTAE-NO-KIWAMI IS AN ATTACK USED BY SAGARA SANOSUKE IN RUROUNI KENSHIN, AND THE DEMPSEY ROLL WAS A SIGNATURE MOVE BY BOXER JACK DEMPSEY AND BECAME A TECHNIQUE USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN HAJIME NO IPPO.

P.28 ***SUMMER FESTIVALS AND YUKATA*** SUMMER (ESPECIALLY MID-AUGUST) IS THE OBON SEASON. A TIME WHEN ONE USUALLY RETURNS TO THE FAMILY HOME TO VISIT WITH FAMILY AND MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO THE CEMETERY WHERE ONE'S ANCESTORS ARE INTERRED. BUT ALONG WITH THAT, EVERY COMMUNITY WILL HAVE SOME SORT OF OBON CELEBRATION THAT INCLUDES FESTIVALS, NIGHT-MARKETS, AND IN MANY CASES, FIREWORKS. SINCE THIS IS IN THE HEAT OF HIGH-SUMMER, AND FAVORED MODE OF DRESS, ESPECIALLY FOR GIRLS, IS THE LIGHT, COOL, COTTON KIMONO CALLED *YUKATA.*

P.28 ***FLAT CHESTED*** TRADITIONAL JAPANESE DRESS (SUCH AS KIMONO AND *YUKATA*) ARE WELL KNOWN IN JAPAN FOR LOOKING BETTER ON WOMEN WITH SMALL BUST SIZES.

P.32 ***AKIHABARA*** AS MOST OTAKU KNOW, AKIHABARA, WHICH USED TO BE BETTER KNOWN AS THE ELECTRONICS DISTRICT OF TOKYO, HAS EVER SINCE THE 1990S BECOME THE MECCA FOR ALL STRIPES OF OTAKU WITH ITS MANY ANIME, MANGA, GAME, AND COLLECTIBLES SHOPS AS WELL AS OTAKU-ORIENTED CAFÉS AND OTHER OTAKU-SPECIFIC ATTRACTIONS.

P.32 ***OTAKU CULTURE*** IN 2001, A CINDERELLA STORY RETOLD IN THE FORM OF MESSAGE-BOARD POSTS WAS PUBLISHED IN BOOK FORM TELLING THE STORY OF A TYPICAL OTAKU WHO TRANSFORMS HIMSELF TO WIN THE HEART OF A BEAUTIFUL GIRL HE MET ON A TRAIN. TRAIN-MAN (*DENSHA OTOKO*) BECAME A HUGE HIT AND ITS MOVIE AND TV ADAPTATION STARTED THE (UNFORTUNATELY SHORT-LIVED) OTAKU BOOM IN JAPAN. DURING THE NEXT HALF-DECADE OR SO, OTAKU CULTURE INVADED ALL SORTS OF MAINSTREAM ENTERTAINMENT, OTAKU-THEMED SONGS AND DRAMAS BECAME NUMBER-ONE HITS, AND SUCH PLACES AS MAID CAFÉS BECAME HOUSEHOLD WORDS.

P.32 ***BGM*** STANDS FOR BACK-GROUND MUSIC, AND LIKE THE NAME IMPLIES, IT'S THE SOUNDTRACK FOR ANIME, GAMES, AND OTHER SUCH ENTERTAINMENT.

P.36 ***ACTIVIST JUDGE*** OKAY, IT DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME POLITICALLY CHARGED MEANING AS WHEN AN AMERICAN SAYS "ACTIVIST JUDGE," BUT IT'S A LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE JAPANESE.

P.37 ***SAITAMA, NAGOYA*** SAITAMA PREFECTURE (THE PLACE THAT IS THE MODEL FOR THE LUCKY STAR SETTING) BORDERS TOKYO, AND MOST OF ITS RESIDENTS TAKE THE SHORT TRAIN RIDE INTO TOKYO FOR SHOPPING, ENTERTAINMENT, SPECIALTY SHOPS, AND ANY OTHER PURPOSE ASIDE FROM ONE'S DAY-TO-DAY NEEDS. NAGOYA IS HALFWAY BETWEEN TOKYO AND OSAKA AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE AT THE HEART OF A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT REGION OF JAPAN. NAGOYA IS FAR ENOUGH AWAY FROM SAITAMA THAT FEW WOULD CONSIDER GOING SIMPLY TO VISIT A RESTAURANT.

P.37 ***LOLI-CON*** LOLI-CON IS A SHORTENING OF "LOLITA COMPLEX," THE ATTRACTION TOWARD YOUNG GIRLS.

P.38 ***JAPANESE CLASS*** LIKE ENGLISH CLASS IN AMERICA FOCUSES MORE ON ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BASED HUMANITIES STUDIES, JAPANESE CLASS IN JAPAN FOCUSES ON LEARNING JAPANESE-LANGUAGE-BASED LITERARY CLASSICS AND HUMANITIES.

P.39 ***PINO*** PINO IS A SMALL, BITE-SIZED, CHOCOLATE-COVERED ICE CREAM TREAT THAT COME IN PACKAGES OF SIX. THEY ARE SORT OF LIKE BITE-SIZED VERSIONS OF THE ORIGINAL KLONDIKE BARS.

P.40 ***GETTING INTO TODAI*** IN JAPAN, THE UNDISPUTED TOP UNIVERSITY IS *TOKYO DAIGAKU* (TOKYO UNIVERSITY) WHICH IS OFTEN SHORTENED TO *TODAI*. IT HAS THE TOUGHEST ENTRANCE EXAM IN THE COUNTRY, AND THE COMPETITION FOR ITS LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS IS FIERCE. A MANGA-BASED TV DRAMA BY THE NAME OF DRAGON ZAKURA WAS ON TELEVISION ABOUT THE TIME THAT THESE STRIPS WERE WRITTEN. THE STORY WAS ABOUT A SMALL CLASS OF STUDENTS WHO WERE DETERMINED TO PASS THE TODAI ENTRANCE EXAM, AND THE WEIRD TEACHER AND HIS UNCONVENTIONAL STUDY METHODS WHO TRIES TO HELP THEM ACHIEVE THAT GOAL.

P.44 ***PEBBLES*** OKAY, TIME TO FESS UP. I HAVE NO IDEA WHY THIS STRIP IS TITLED KOISHI (WHICH MEANS "SMALL STONES" OR "PEBBLES"). IF YOU KNOW, PLEASE CONTACT PLEASE CONTACT BANDAI ENTERTAINMENT AND LET US KNOW. WE'RE DYING TO FIND OUT! (BY THE WAY, IT ISN'T BECAUSE OF MINORU SHIRAISHI'S RECORDING OF "KOISHI TEMOII JANAI," BECAUSE THAT *KOI* ("LOVE") IS A DIFFERENT WORD.)

P.45 ***LIGHT HOUSE*** THERE'S A SAYING ABOUT HOW IT'S DARK AT THE BASE OF A LIGHT HOUSE. IT MEANS YOU CAN SEE SOMETHING FROM FAR AWAY, BUT WHEN YOU ARE CLOSE TO THE SOURCE, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SEE ANYMORE.

P.51 ***COMIKET*** OR MORE FORMALLY, THE COMIC MARKET. A MASSIVE (550,000 ATTENDEES) GATHERING OF MANGA FANS, FAN-MANGA CREATORS CALLED DOUJINSHI CIRCLES, AND SOME PROFESSIONALS FOR A HUGE SELL OFF OF DOUJINSHI AND OTHER FANNISH ITEMS. THERE ARE TWO HELD EVERY YEAR, ONCE IN SUMMER AND ONCE IN WINTER.

P.51 ***ALL-NIGHTERS, ETC.*** IT IS AGAINST THE RULES (AND IS POSSIBLY ILLEGAL) TO WAIT IN LINE ALL NIGHT TO GET INTO COMIKET BEFORE THE SHOW STARTS, BUT GETTING ADMITTED TO THE SITE EARLY IS A MUST FOR SOME FANS SINCE VERY POPULAR DOUJINSHI CIRCLES SELL OUT OF THEIR MAGAZINES WITHIN A FEW HOURS OF THE OPENING. SO THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF STRATEGIES. A TICKET TYPE (*CHIKETTO-GUMI*) CAN GET IN EARLY AS A PART OF A DOUJINSHI CIRCLE. A DUMMY CIRCLE IS A CIRCLE THAT DOESN'T ACTUALLY SELL MAGAZINES, BUT IS FORMED SIMPLY TO GET INTO COMIKET EARLY. AN URIKO IS A GIRL WHOSE LOOKS ARE USED BY CIRCLES TO BOOST DRAW CUSTOMERS AND INCREASE SALES.

P.53 ***KANJI FOR "RIVER"*** SLEEPING LIKE THE CHARACTER FOR "RIVER" IS A COMMON PHRASE FOR A COUPLE WITH ONE CHILD. THE KANJI FOR RIVER IS MADE UP OF THREE LINES, A LONG LINE ON THE LEFT, A SHORT LINE IN THE MIDDLE, AND ANOTHER LONG LINE ON THE RIGHT. THIS LOOKS LIKE A FATHER, BABY AND MOTHER ALL SLEEPING SIDE-BY-SIDE. THE CHARACTER FOR "LITTLE" IS, AS IN THE ILLUSTRATION, A SHORT LINE ON THE LEFT, A LONG LINE IN THE MIDDLE, AND ANOTHER SHORT LINE ON THE RIGHT.

P.59 ***ARTS FESTIVAL*** EVERY YEAR, USUALLY IN AUTUMN, EVERY SCHOOL IN JAPAN HOLDS A *BUNKA-SAI* ("ARTS FESTIVAL"). IT USUALLY CONSISTS OF EACH HOMEROOM, CLUB, AND ORGANIZATION PRODUCING SOME FORM OF SHOP OR ENTERTAINMENT DURING A SCHOOL-WIDE FAIR.

P.65 ***PHONE-ETICS*** THE JAPANESE TITLE, *RENDOU*, MEANS "WORKING TOGETHER," BUT GIVEN THE CONTEXT, IT COULD ALSO BE PARSED AS A

SHORTENED VERSION OF RENRAKU-UNDOU, WHICH MEANS "CONTACT (BY PHONE) EXERCISES." I REPLACED THIS UNTRANSLATABLE PUN WITH SOMETHING CLOSE IN ENGLISH.

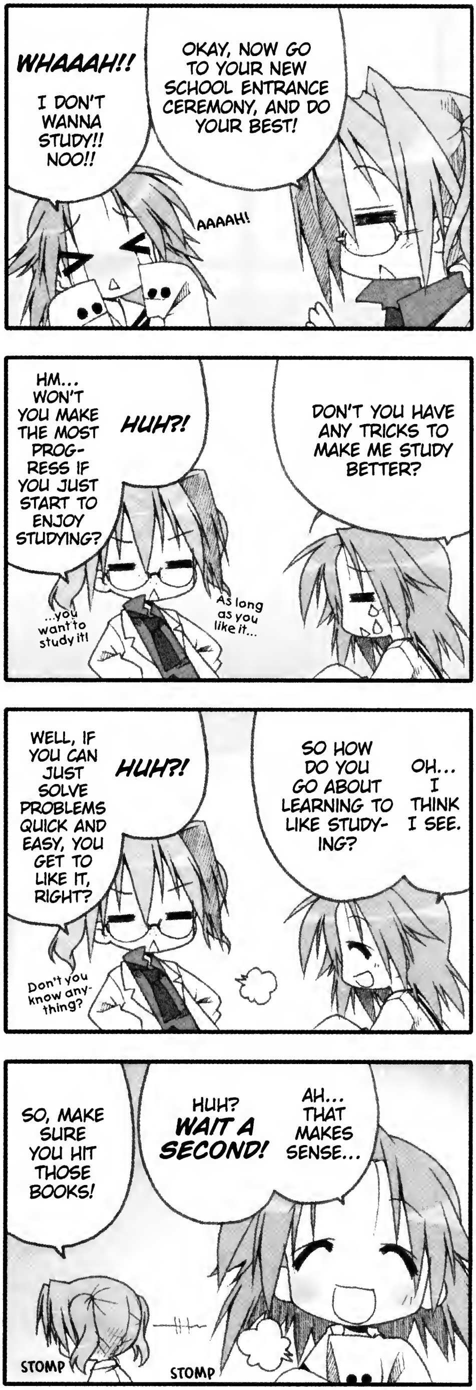
P.65	***BOWING OVER THE PHONE***	IN JAPAN, BOWING IS DONE DOZENS (IF NOT HUNDREDS) OF TIMES A DAY, WHEN MEETING SOMEONE, WHEN PASSING ON THE STREET, WHEN SAYING GOODBYE, WHEN THANKING SOMEONE, AS A SIMPLE POLITE GESTURE, AMONG MANY OTHER OCCASIONS. IT'S SO INGRAINED THAT NEARLY ALL JAPANESE UNCONSCIOUSLY BOW WHEN TALKING ON THE PHONE AS WELL. EVEN FOREIGNERS WHO LIVE IN JAPAN FOR AN EXTENDED TIME GET INTO THE SAME HABIT, AND FIND THEMSELVES MAKING THE SAME GESTURES WHILE TALKING ON THE PHONE.
P.73	***SUMMER JUMBO***	SUMMER JUMBO IS A HIGH-JACKPOT LOTTERY THAT IS HELD EVERY SUMMER. THE TICKETS ARE SOLD WITH PREPRINTED NUMBERS FOR 300 YEN (ABOUT $3) A TICKET, AND AT THE END OF A SPECIFIED PERIOD, A DRAWING IS HELD.
P.74	***BRAIN TRAINING***	FOR MOST OF THE DECADE OF 2000-2010, IT BECAME A FAD TO TRY TO IMPROVE YOUR BRAIN POWER THROUGH IQ-TEST-LIKE QUIZZES. THESE QUIZZES WERE MOSTLY FOUND IN BOOKS, BUT ALSO FOUND ON TV QUIZ SHOWS AND IN GAMES, ESPECIALLY PORTABLE GAMES SUCH AS THE NINTENDO DS (DOUBLE SCREEN).
P.76	***DRAMA CDS***	POPULAR MANGA ARE OFTEN ADAPTED INTO RADIO-STYLE DRAMAS AND RELEASED ON CD WELL BEFORE THEY ARE ADAPTED INTO ANIME OR LIVE-ACTION TV DRAMAS. IN MANY CASES THE DRAMA CD VOICE ACTORS WILL REPRISE THEIR ROLES FOR THE ANIMATED VERSION.
P.86	***HERE HE IIIIIS***	THE OTAKU-BOOM (SEE ABOVE NOTE) STARTER NOVEL, DENSHA OTOKO (TRAIN-MAN) WAS SAID TO HAVE ORIGINALLY BEEN A TAKEN FROM ACTUAL POSTS TO THE OTAKU-FAVORITE INTERNET MESSAGE BOARD 2-CHANNEL (OR 2-CHAN AS IT IS KNOWN TO ITS USERS). AND WHEN THE CHARACTER WITH THE USERNAME DENSHA-OTOKO WOULD COME ONTO 2-CHAN TO REPORT THE LATEST NEWS OF HIS UNLIKELY ROMANCE, THE OTHER MESSAGE BOARD USERS WOULD GREET HIS ARRIVAL WITH THE PHRASE "*KITAAAAAAAAA----!!*" WHICH IS AN ENTHUSIASTIC WAY OF SAYING, "HERE HE IS!"
P.91	***BOOKIES***	THE TITLE IN JAPANESE, *HONTEI* IS A WORD THAT MEANS "ONE'S RESIDENCE." THAT MEANING OBVIOUSLY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE STRIP, BUT SINCE HON MEANS "BOOK" AND TEI CAN HAVE ANY NUMBER OF MEANINGS INCLUDING "APPEARANCES" OR "SUGGESTION," IT SEEMED THAT THE TITLE WAS CHOSEN AS A PUN RELATING TO THE WORD "BOOK." SO I CHOSE A PUN TITLE THAT FIT THAT CONCEPT AND SAVED THE EXPLANATION FOR THESE NOTES.
	MUNDANE	FAN COMMUNITIES IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES CALL NORMAL PEOPLE "MUNDANES" IN MUCH THE SAME WAY THAT HARRY POTTER FANS CALL NORMAL PEOPLE "MUGGLES."
P.93	***ONE OF THESE THINGS***	NO, IN THE JAPANESE VERSION, KONATA DIDN'T USE THE FAMOUS SESAME STREET SONG, "ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER," BUT THE WORDS SHE USED DOES TRANSLATE OUT TO A PHRASE WITH THE VERY SAME MEANING.
P.97	***FUJI TV NETWORK***	FUJI TV IS BOTH A CHANNEL IN THE TOKYO AREA AND A CREATOR OF TELEVISION CONTENT MEANT FOR NATION-WIDE BROADCASTS. HOWEVER, THE TV STATIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY THAT USE FUJI TV'S CONTENT DO NOT PRIMARILY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS A FUJI TV AFFILIATE (AS, SAY, A CBS AFFILIATE WOULD IN AMERICA), AND THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY SHOW FUJI TV PROGRAMS AT THE SAME TIME AS THEY DO IN TOKYO. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR LATE-NIGHT PROGRAMS.
P.102	***AIRPOTS***	SINCE TEA IS SO UBIQUITOUS IN JAPAN, MACHINES THAT MAKE IT EASIER TO SERVE TEA ARE VERY POPULAR. THE AIRPOT IS ONE SUCH DEVICE. IT SERVES TO KEEP WATER AT A HIGH TEMPERATURE SO THAT TEA CAN BE SERVED AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. BUT IT CAN ALSO BE USED FOR OTHER HOT-WATER APPLICATIONS SUCH AS INSTANT SOUP AND ADDING WATER FOR CUP RAMEN.
P.103	***CELL PHONES ON TRAINS***	IT IS AGAINST THE RULES AND CONSIDERED VERY RUDE TO TALK ON CELL PHONES WHILE RIDING TRAINS IN JAPAN (TEXTING AND OTHER SILENT TASKS ARE ALLOWED). HOWEVER, THERE IS A SMALL SECTION OF SEATS SET ASIDE FOR THE HANDICAPPED, ELDERLY, AND PREGNANT WOMEN. IF ONE IS SITTING IN OR STANDING NEAR ONE OF THOSE SEATS, ONE MUST TURN OFF ONE'S CELL PHONE ENTIRELY.
P.104	***MANIA***	WHEN YOU TYPE INTO A JAPANESE WORD PROCESSOR, YOU FIRST TYPE THE PHONETIC *HIRAGANA* CHARACTERS, AND WITH A TOUCH OF A BUTTON (USUALLY THE SPACE BAR), THOSE WORDS GET CHANGED TO *KANJI*, *KATAGANA*, OR OTHER JAPANESE CHARACTERS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE TO THE SENTENCE. BUT THERE ARE A LOT OF HOMOPHONES (SOUND-ALIKE WORDS) IN JAPANESE, AND SO THERE ARE MANY VARIATIONS ON THE *KANJI* THAT CAN APPEAR WITH ANY PARTICULAR WORD. THE PROGRAMS "LEARN" IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE WORDS YOU USE THE MOST OFTEN COME UP FIRST. SO, KAGAMI LEARNS THAT (FOR EXAMPLE) KONATA USES THE WORD "DRESSING IN DRAG" FOR THE JAPANESE SOUND JOSOU MORE THAN SHE USES "RUNNING START." NOT A THING YOU'D REALLY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT A CLOSE FRIEND.
P.106	***TSUN-DERE***	SEE THE NOTE IN VOLUME 2 OR TURN TO P.126 AND READ KAGAMI'S DEFINITION OF THE TERM.
P.115	***BINCHOUTAN***	A MOE-STYLE MANGA AND ANIME THAT AIRED IN JAPAN IN THE SPRING OF 2006.
P.117	***YU-CHATTA***	THIS IS A PUN BASED ON YUTAKA'S NICKNAME, YU-CHAN, AND THE PHRASE, "I WENT AND SAID SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE," WHICH CAN BE PRONOUNCED, *YUCHATTA*.
P.118	***SICK-BED VISIT***	SICK-BED VISITS OR OMIMAI (NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH MARRIAGE MEETINGS, OMIAI) ARE A LONG-OBSERVED CUSTOM IN JAPAN. FRIENDS AND FAMILY USUALLY BRING SNACKS, FRUITS, FLOWERS OR OTHER GIFTS, SIT BY THE BED, AND CONVERSE WITH THE BED-RIDDEN PATIENT FOR A WHILE. IT IS USUALLY NOT PRACTICED FOR ILLNESSES AS LIGHT AS COLDS, BUT THERE IS NO CUSTOM THAT PROHIBITS IT EITHER.
P.132	***BOBBY OLOGUN***	BOBBY OLOGUN IS A NIGERIAN-NATIVE WHO BECAME A TV PERSONALITY IN JAPAN. HE IS MOST NORMALLY NOTED FOR FUNNY MISPRONUNCIATIONS OF JAPANESE WORDS, HOWEVER ABOUT THE TIME THAT THESE STRIPS WERE BEING WRITTEN HE STARTED FIGHTING IN PROFESSIONAL MIXED MARTIAL-ARTS MATCHES IN JAPAN SUCH AS K-1 AND PRIDE.
	ROYCE GRACIE	AFTER ONLY A MONTH OF TRAINING, BOBBY OLOGUN FACED BRAZILIAN-BORN JUJUTSU LEGEND ROYCE GRACIE IN A SPARRING MATCH. BOBBY ACTUALLY LOST THE MATCH, BUT DID MUCH BETTER THAN EXPECTED.
	BOBBY VALENTINE	BOBBY VALENTINE IS AN EX-BASEBALL PLAYER WHO IN THE PAST MANAGED THE TEXAS RANGERS AND THE NEW YORK METS. HE IS PRESENTLY (AS OF THIS TRANSLATION) MANAGING THE CHIBA LOTTE MARINES, AND IS ONE OF THE FEW AMERICANS TO BECOME A LONG-TERM SUCCESS MANAGING IN THE JAPANESE LEAGUES.
P.133	***GUM***	AS NOTED ON THE NOTES FOR P.16, LOTTE MAKES SEVERAL DIFFERENT FLAVORS OF GUM WHICH WERE PROBABLY ONE OF THE SELECT DISCOUNTED ITEMS AFTER THE CHIBA LOTTE MARINES WON THE JAPAN SERIES.
	KOALA'S MARCH	KOALA'S MARCH IS A LOTTE-MADE COOKIE SNACK WITH SWEET FILLINGS SUCH AS CHOCOLATE, STRAWBERRY ON THE INSIDE.
	LOTTERIA	LOTTERIA IS LOTTE'S MCDONALD'S-LIKE FAST-FOOD CHAIN.
P.136	***PENCIL BOARDS***	KNOWN BETTER TO OTAKU BY THEIR JAPANESE NAME *SHITAJIKI*, THEY ARE LAMINATED PLASTIC BOARDS THAT ARE USUALLY MEANT TO BE PLACED UNDER A SHEET OF PAPER IN A NOTEBOOK (MEMO PAD, ETC) TO PROVIDE A HARD SURFACE TO WRITE ON. HOWEVER MAKERS OF ANIME AND MANGA STARTED DECORATING THESE SIMPLE, CHEAP DEVICES WITH ARTWORK, MAKING SOME OF THEM VERY COLLECTIBLE. NOW, LIKE UCHIWA FANS, THEY ARE A CHEAP WAY TO ADVERTISE SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS DOUJINSHI CIRCLES AND THE LIKE.
P.139	***FMA***	FMA REFERS TO FULL METAL ALCHEMIST.
P.141	***GOING VEGETARIAN***	THIS COMMENT IS NOT MEANT TO INSULT VEGETARIANS, BUT RATHER BE AN INDICATION OF HOW PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY IN JAPAN TEND TO SKIMP ON MEAT IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR FOOD BUDGETS.
	SALTED RICE GRUEL	RICE GRUEL (OR RICE PORRIDGE), CALLED OKAYU IN JAPANESE, IS A SOUPY RICE DISH THAT CAN BE MADE WITH NOTHING MORE THAN RICE AND WATER. IT IS MAINLY THOUGHT OF AS A DISH FOR SICK PEOPLE (BECAUSE IT IS REPORTEDLY EASY TO DIGEST), HOWEVER FEW WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO IT AS AN EVERYDAY MEAL.
P.143	***KOBAN, PEARLS***	A STANDARD JAPANESE PROVERB "*NEKO NI KOBAN*" ("GIVE A CAT A KOBAN GOLD COIN"), IS VERY CLOSE IN MEANING TO THE WESTERN PROVERB, "TO CAST PEARLS BEFORE SWINE," SINCE BOTH ARE SAYINGS THAT TALK ABOUT GIVING SOMETHING VALUABLE TO SOMEONE WHO CANNOT APPRECIATE IT.
P.150	***MEGANEKKO***	THERE IS A SMALL GROUP OF MEN WHO FETISHIZE CUTE GIRLS WHO WEAR GLASSES, AND THERE IS ANIME AND QUITE A FEW MANGA BASED SIMPLY ON THESE WOMEN. THE WORD IS MADE UP OF THE WORD FOR "GLASSES," *MEGANE*, AND THE WORD FOR GIRL (OR CHILD) *KO*.

Lucky☆Star

Yoshimizu★Kagami

3

I wouldn't mind just a slightly bigger part in this manga...
You know you're not supposed to say that out loud!


OKAY, NOW GO TO YOUR NEW SCHOOL ENTRANCE CEREMONY, AND DO YOUR BEST!
WHAAAH!! I DON'T WANNA STUDY!! NOO!!
AAAAH!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY TRICKS TO MAKE ME STUDY BETTER?
As long as you like it...
HUH?!
HM... WON'T YOU MAKE THE MOST PROGRESS IF YOU JUST START TO ENJOY STUDYING?
...you want to study it!
OH... I THINK I SEE.
SO HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT LEARNING TO LIKE STUDYING?
HUH?!
WELL, IF YOU CAN JUST SOLVE PROBLEMS QUICK AND EASY, YOU GET TO LIKE IT, RIGHT?
Don't you know anything?
AH... THAT MAKES SENSE...
HUH? WAIT A SECOND!
SO, MAKE SURE YOU HIT THOSE BOOKS!
STOMP
STOMP

Eh? What do I have to apologize for?

It's not something I can talk about here.

If you agree to take a look at Volume 4, maybe I'll tell you!

That's a lie! Um... but anyways... Please consider buying the next volume! ><

Hey, if we get the chance, let's meet up again.

Lucky☆Star

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Yoshimizu★Kagami

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